



KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

House Committee on Education Neutral Testimony on HB 2519

February 12, 2020

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Good afternoon Chairman Huebert and Members of the Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you and present testimony regarding HB 2519.

This bill, the Students' Right to Know Act, would require the State Department of Education to create a website quite similar to the Board of Regents' Kansas DegreeStats site¹ created several years ago, as well as the federal College Scorecard site². We completely agree that Kansas high school students should be well-informed when making decisions about college, as well they should understand their potential earnings, which is why we worked with the Legislature in formulating our website that identifies the costs as well as wages earned upon graduation for graduates of Kansas degree programs. We are working with the Department of Education to embed the site in students' Individual Plans of Study to emphasize its value in helping students and their families understand their postsecondary options.

Our agency also publishes the Kansas Training Information Program annually, which reports employment and wage data for all approved postsecondary career technical education programs offered by technical colleges, community colleges, and Washburn Institute of Technology³. We consider this information also of great value to high school students, again in understanding their return on investment from our array of program options.

While we already publish some of the elements identified in the bill and could certainly provide the data to the Kansas State Department of Education, we do not collect many of the items identified. Our recommendation would be to utilize the reports and data that already exist, Kansas DegreeStats, the federal College Scorecard, and the Kansas Training Information Program, rather than create duplicative and competing sites. We would be pleased to work with your Committee in identifying those data elements not already reported but considered valuable for high school students and the public in understanding the potential return on investment from a postsecondary credential.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony regarding this bill. I am happy to stand for questions.

¹ <https://www.ksdegreestats.org>

² <https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/>

³ https://kansasregents.org/workforce_development/k-tip-report