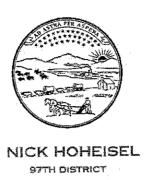
STATE OF KANSAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Chairman Johnson and members of the House Committee on Taxation,

Thank you for taking time to consider HB 2011. Since 2006, the cost of a college textbooks has increased by 73 percent — or more than four times the rate of inflation — according to Covering the Cost, a new report from the non-profit Student PIRGs (Public Interest Research Groups). It's not uncommon for an individual book to cost more than \$200, and some have price tags that go as high as \$400, the report said. I personally experienced the impact of soaring textbook costs one semester when I spent \$55 on sales tax alone for my books. While \$55 may not be a large sum looking back now, as a broke college kid it would have gone a long way in terms of groceries or other school supplies. While HB 2011 certainly is not the be-all answer to these problems, it's certainly a start. I respectfully ask the committee to support HB 2011.