



KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

Senate Ways and Means Committee Testimony in Support of SB 255

January 30, 2020

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President & CEO, Kansas Board of Regents**

Good morning Chair McGinn and Members of the Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB 255.

This bill would provide an additional \$5 million for the University of Kansas Cancer Center in support of achieving the National Cancer Institute Comprehensive Cancer Center designation. The Board of Regents fully supports this effort and is proud of the important work that the University of Kansas Cancer Center does for the State of Kansas and the region.

NCI designation is awarded only to the nation's premier cancer research and treatment centers. These centers are pioneers in cancer research, recognized for scientific leadership, resources and depth of research in basic, clinical and population science. We are proud that Kansas has benefitted from the research and treatment options made available with the state support the Legislature has provided to the Center with annual appropriations.

The research that is conducted at our universities is an essential part of our higher education system. Research promotes innovation, job growth, and entrepreneurship. Students who are involved in research are much more likely to graduate and will become scientists, engineers, doctors, and teachers. Most importantly, the KU Cancer Center makes it possible for Kansans diagnosed with cancer to receive leading-edge treatment at home.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this bill.

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