

**HOUSE BILL No. 2157**

By Representative Garber

1-24

1 AN ACT concerning postsecondary educational institutions; creating the  
2 campus intellectual diversity act; requiring an office of public policy  
3 events at each postsecondary educational institution.  
4

5 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

6 Section 1. (a) The provisions of this section shall be known and may  
7 be cited as the campus intellectual diversity act.

8 (b) The governing body or the chief administrative officer, if no  
9 governing body exists, of each postsecondary educational institution shall  
10 establish, fund and staff an office of public policy events for the purpose  
11 of:

12 (1) Organizing a substantial number of debates, group forums and  
13 individual lectures;

14 (2) obtaining the participation of speakers who represent widely held  
15 views on opposing sides of the most widely discussed public policy issues  
16 of the day; and

17 (3) inviting and hosting speakers who can ably articulate opposing  
18 and widely held perspectives on public policy issues.

19 (c) The responsibilities of each office of public policy events shall  
20 include, but not be limited to, the following:

21 (1) Organizing, publicizing and staging debates, group forums and  
22 individual lectures that address from multiple, divergent and opposing  
23 perspectives an extensive range of public policy issues widely discussed  
24 and debated in society at large;

25 (2) inviting speakers who hold a wide diversity of perspectives, from  
26 within and outside the campus community, to participate in debates, group  
27 forums and individual lectures;

28 (3) inviting speakers from outside the campus community if the office  
29 of public policy events is unable to find an advocate from within the  
30 campus community who is well-versed in a perspective the office wishes  
31 to be represented in a given debate, group forum or individual lecture;

32 (4) providing, where necessary, honoraria, travel and lodging  
33 expenses to people from outside the campus community who participate in  
34 debates, group forums and individual lectures organized by the office of  
35 public policy events;

36 (5) publishing a permanent, publicly accessible and up-to-date

1 calendar that is accessible and searchable through the internet that:

2 (A) Lists all events sponsored by the office of public policy events  
3 and all other debates, group forums and individual lectures open to the  
4 entire campus community that address public policy issues; and

5 (B) itemizes the title of the event or lecture, the name and  
6 institutional affiliation of the speaker or speakers and the office, institute,  
7 department, program or organization that sponsored the event, except  
8 those events sponsored by off-campus groups in rented facilities;

9 (6) on or before September 1 of each year, submitting the public  
10 policy event calendar for the immediately preceding school year to the  
11 governor and the legislature and providing copies of such public policy  
12 event calendar to each library of the postsecondary educational institution;  
13 and

14 (7) publishing a publicly accessible video record of each debate,  
15 group forum and individual lecture organized by the office of public policy  
16 events on the internet within 10 business days after the event that is the  
17 subject of the recording and maintaining such video record in a publicly  
18 accessible form on the internet for at least five years following the date of  
19 such event. Such video recordings shall be provided to each library of the  
20 postsecondary educational institution.

21 (d) The governing body or the chief administrative officer, if no  
22 governing body exists, of each postsecondary educational institution, in its  
23 discretion, may assign the duties and responsibilities of the office of public  
24 policy events to an existing administrative office, provided the  
25 administrative head of such office is designated as the director of public  
26 policy events. The duties and responsibilities of the office of public policy  
27 events required under this section shall be carried out by such director and  
28 the director's staff.

29 (e) The office of public policy events shall report directly to the office  
30 of general counsel for such postsecondary educational institution.

31 (f) All debates, group forums and individual lectures organized by the  
32 office of public policy events shall be open to all students, faculty and staff  
33 at such postsecondary educational institution and to the general public,  
34 unless there is a compelling governmental interest and restricting  
35 attendance by persons unaffiliated with such postsecondary educational  
36 institution is necessary to achieve such compelling governmental interest.

37 (g) As used in this section:

38 (1) "Debate" means an event at which two or more participants speak  
39 in favor of opposing approaches to the same public policy dispute, after  
40 which each participant is allotted time to address and rebut the position  
41 presented by the opposing speaker or speakers;

42 (2) "group forum" means an event at which two or more speakers  
43 address a public policy dispute from divergent or opposing perspectives,

1 after which each participant is allotted time to address questions from the  
2 audience and to comment on the opposing perspective; and

3 (3) "postsecondary educational institution" means the same as such  
4 term is defined in K.S.A. 74-3201b, and amendments thereto.

5 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its  
6 publication in the statute book.