

Testimony of Mark Dugan on behalf of Cerebral Palsy Research Foundation of Kansas

Before the Kansas House Committee on Commerce, Labor, and Economic Development

Hearing on Senate Bill 333, concerning the State Use Law Committee

March 5, 2024

Chairman Tarwater and Members of the Kansas House Committee on Commerce, Labor, and Economic Development:

Good afternoon! My name is Mark Dugan with Dugan Consulting Group, and I'm providing testimony today on behalf of Cerebral Palsy Research Foundation of Kansas (CPRF).

Thank you for allowing me to convey CPRF's strong support for Senate Bill 333, which extends the Kansas State Use Law Committee for another five-year period.

CPRF is a nationally recognized leader in the development of rehabilitation engineering, specialized services, advocacy, employment training, and job placement for people with all types of disabilities. CPRF is also a Kansas State Use Law vendor.

The Kansas State Use Law is one way the state supports adults with disabilities to find and sustain employment. The Kansas State Use Law Committee, which SB 333 reauthorizes until July 2029, brings together key stakeholders to collaborate on ways to improve this process both for the employees, employers, and state agency and school district customers.

The Kansas State Use Law website¹ lists the following benefits of the program:

- Yields meaningful employment and training
- Compliments and encourages efforts to deinstitutionalize people who have disabilities
- Advocates self-sufficiency for those with disabilities
- Reduces cost of service care for people with disabilities
- Encourages community involvement and support of people who have disabilities
- Supports efforts for a good business approach to spending vocational rehabilitation dollars
- Increases tax base
- Decreases tax requirements
- Stimulates growth of Kansas local economy
- Ensures continuity in the supply of needed services and products to customers
- Provides opportunity for State agencies to contract for services at a lower cost than inhouse services
- Promotes productivity in vocational rehabilitation centers

For these reasons, CPRF supports the continuation of the State Use Law Committee and urges your support of SB 333. Thank you again for the opportunity to present testimony in support of SB 333 and I am happy to take questions.

¹ https://www.ksstateuse.org/about-ks-state-use/