



Kansas Independent College Association

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www.kscolleges.org

Thank you Chairman Tyson and members of the committee.

I appear before you on behalf of the member institutions of the Kansas Independent College Association in support of Senate Bill 30.

The KICA consists of all nineteen non-profit institutions of higher education in Kansas that offer undergraduate degrees, are regionally accredited, have their main campus in Kansas, and adhere to Kansas law regarding open admission standards with respect to gender, race, national origin, or religion.

We support SB 30 as a necessary technical correction to the retailers' sales tax act. All members of the KICA are regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, as are all the Regents universities, Washburn, and our community and technical colleges. Prior to 2014, the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) was a part of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The North Central Association had two arms: one provided quality assurance, via accreditation, to K-12 schools, and a second did the same for higher education institutions. In both cases, the region covered was all of the Midwest and Plains states, a group of nineteen states.

In 2014, the North Central Association was dissolved. The arm responsible for K-12 accreditation became part of what is now called AdvanceEd. And the arm responsible for higher education institutional accreditation is now called the Higher Learning Commission. Thus, there is no longer a North Central Association and what is intended in statute is now the Higher Learning Commission.

Therefore, the members of the KICA support SB 30 which makes appropriate corrections to the Kansas statute. Thank you for your attention to this issue and I am happy to answer questions on this topic.

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Baker University – Benedictine College – Bethany College – Bethel College – Central Christian College of Kansas – Cleveland College-Kansas City – Donnelly College – Friends University – Hesston College – Kansas Wesleyan University – Manhattan Christian College – McPherson College – MidAmerica Nazarene University – Newman University – Ottawa University – Southwestern College – Sterling College – Tabor College – University of Saint Mary

Member Colleges and Universities

Baker University 1858 • Benedictine College 1858 • Bethany College 1881 • Bethel College 1887 • Central Christian College 1884
Donnelly College 1949 • Friends University 1898 • Hesston College 1909 • Kansas Wesleyan University 1886
Manhattan Christian College 1927 • McPherson College 1887 • MidAmerica Nazarene University 1966 • Newman University 1933
Ottawa University 1865 • Southwestern College 1885 • Sterling College 1887 • Tabor College 1908 • University of Saint Mary 1923