



KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

Senate Education Committee HB 2212 | Proponent March 13, 2017

Dr. Thomas Burke
TEA Member and President Emeritus at Kansas City Kansas Community College

Good afternoon Chair Baumgardner and members of the Committee. This testimony is submitted on behalf of the Kansas Board of Regents and the Kansas Postsecondary Technical Education Authority (TEA). The TEA was initially created in the 2007 Legislative Session and was last renewed in 2014.

The Board of Regents and Kansas Postsecondary Technical Education Authority are seeking to extend the sunset date of the TEA and its statutory functions for five years from June 30, 2017 to June 30, 2022, so that it can continue to perform the tasks as statutorily defined as well as new efforts, such as assisting former members of the military with obtaining college credit for military training.

To give context to our request, here is some basic information regarding the TEA:

- The TEA consists of 12 people with three appointed by the Governor, one appointed by the Speaker of the House, one appointed by the Senate President, and four appointed by the Kansas Board of Regents. In addition, the Department of Commerce, Department of Education, and Department of Labor are also represented. The majority of appointees are business leaders from around the state with several who have higher education experience.
- TEA statutory duties include:
 - The TEA has delegated authority from the Board to coordinate statewide planning for postsecondary technical education, new postsecondary technical education programs, and contract training.
 - To do so, the TEA works with any relevant federal agencies, the Kansas Department of Education, and other relevant state agencies as well as business and industry in Kansas.
 - The TEA recommends to the Board any rules and regulations necessary for the supervision of postsecondary technical education.

★ LEADING HIGHER EDUCATION ★

- The TEA reviews existing and proposed programs and/or program locations and make recommendations for the approval and disapproval of such programs for funding purposes.
- The TEA reviews requests for state funding for postsecondary technical education and makes recommendations to the Board for amounts of state funding and the distribution thereof.
- The TEA develops benchmarks and accountability indicators of programs to be used in distributing state funding and make recommendations to the Board on such indicators.
- The TEA develops and advocates a policy agenda for postsecondary technical education.
- The TEA studies how to maximize the utilization of resources and makes recommendations to the Board.
- The TEA conducts studies to develop strategies and programs for meeting needs of business and industry and makes recommendations to the Board.
- The TEA makes reports on its performance, along with any recommendations it might have, to the Board and the Legislature.
- The TEA coordinates the development of a seamless system of technical education between secondary and postsecondary levels.
- The TEA develops and recommends to the Board a credit hour funding distribution formula for postsecondary technical training programs that meets certain criteria listed in statute, establishes and recommends to the Board the rates to be used in such formula.

The Kansas Board of Regents and the TEA welcome the opportunity to discuss this issue further should you have questions.

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today.