



## TESTIMONY

TO: SENATE ASSESSMENT & TAXATION COMMITTEE  
FROM: BRETT LETKOWSKI, PRESIDENT  
AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF  
KANSAS (ACEC KS)  
RE: SB 94  
DATE: FEBRUARY 1, 2023

Chairwoman Tyson, members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on SB 94. I submit this on behalf of ACEC KS, the trade association representing private consulting engineering companies in Kansas.

ACEC KS is opposed to the passage of SB 94. The infrastructure on university campuses is a critical resource for the state which is already under great strain to keep up with the maintenance which ensures a safe environment and robust learning environment for students at these institutions. SB 94 would jeopardize that funding stream.

Currently there is a one mill tax assessed on properties which is dedicated to this work. It is the bulwark of the ability of each university to keep up with their infrastructure needs. SB 94 would replace this funding stream with a switch to state general fund revenue, which creates a much greater risk of uncertainty and funding loss.

We do want to recognize that this bill calls for a direct revenue substitute and an annual inflation adjustment intended to keep those revenues comparable to the current system in future years. We certainly applaud this sentiment.

However, we have seen many times in the past that when the state faces revenue shortfalls, one of the first places revenue is swept away to make up those shortfalls is infrastructure of all kinds. While the passage of SB 94 would not result in a revenue decrease in the next fiscal year, there are no guarantees that there won't be decreases in future years when state finances are tighter than current conditions.

With that in mind, we encourage you not to pass SB 94 and maintain the current funding process. Thank you for your time and the opportunity to submit our concerns.