



KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

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BOARD RESPONDS TO HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE PROPOSAL

(TOPEKA) – Today Regent Donna Shank of Liberal, Chair of the Kansas Board of Regents, issued the following statement regarding the House Appropriations Committee’s latest budget proposal:

“The latest House Appropriations Committee proposal, which would slash higher education funding by almost 12% or \$40 million, is the most damaging budget proposal yet to surface during this legislative session. We’ve made clear our desire to do our part to help resolve the state’s budget crisis; however, we’ve already been cut to the bone. This state’s commitment to higher education is at a critical tipping point because these additional cuts will cause long-term damage, and will undoubtedly produce increased tuition costs and student loan debt for Kansas students. Because today’s fastest growing jobs require some level of higher education, the surest way to grow the Kansas economy is through investment in higher education, not through additional cuts.”

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About the Kansas Board of Regents:

The nine-member Kansas Board of Regents is the governing board of the state’s six universities and the statewide coordinating board for the state’s 32 public higher education institutions (six state universities, a municipal university, nineteen community colleges, and six technical colleges). In addition, the Board administers the state’s student financial aid, adult education, GED, and career and technical education programs. The Board also authorizes private proprietary schools and out-of-state institutions to operate in Kansas, and administers the Kan-ed network, a statewide network that provides broadband Internet access and distance learning capabilities for schools, hospitals, and libraries.

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