



KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

February 8, 2011

Senator Jean Schodorf, Chairwoman
Senate Education Committee
Statehouse, Room 236-E
Topeka, KS 66612

Senator Anthony Hensley, Ranking Member
Senate Education Committee
Statehouse, Room 345-S
Topeka, KS 66612

Dear Chairwoman Schodorf and Ranking Member Hensley:

On behalf of the Kansas Board of Regents, I write to you in support of SB 28, legislation that would amend statutes to enable the University of Kansas Edwards Campus, Johnson County location of Kansas State University, and the Johnson County location of the University of Kansas Medical Center to retain the earned interest on revenue raised by the Johnson County Education Research Triangle Authority (JCERTA) sales tax during the period of time those revenues are on deposit in the State Treasury for the benefit of those programs. Current statute does not specify what is to be done with the interest earned on JCERTA funds during this period.

As you may know, JCERTA oversees revenue raised by a one-eighth-cent sales tax in Johnson County. The JCERTA funds are used for building, construction, academic and research program development and growth, faculty and staff recruitment and retention, and operations and maintenance in support of the undergraduate and graduate programs at the Edwards Campus of the University of Kansas, the research and education programs in animal health and food safety and security at the Johnson County location of Kansas State University, and the medical education and life sciences and cancer research programs at the Johnson County locations of the University of Kansas Medical Center. Current statutes do not contemplate what is to be done with the interest earned on JCERTA funds while on deposit with the State. However, the earned interest on JCERTA funds should be used in the same manner as other revenue derived from the JCERTA sales tax. Amending the statute would ensure that all revenue, including earned interest, from the sales tax is used for its intended purpose of supporting the Johnson County Education Research Triangle.

I have attached the Division of the Budget's fiscal note for SB 28, which provides some additional detail regarding the small amount of revenue tied to this proposal (approximately \$4,320 in FY 2012). Thank you for your consideration of this legislation.

Sincerely,

Dr. Andy Tompkins
President & CEO

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