



## KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

March 10, 2011

Representative Lance Kinzer, Chairman  
House Judiciary Committee  
Statehouse, Room 165-W  
Topeka, KS 66612

Representative Janice Pauls, Ranking Member  
House Judiciary Committee  
Statehouse, Room 451-S  
Topeka, KS 66612

Dear Chairman Kinzer and Ranking Member Pauls:

I write to you on behalf of the Kansas Board of Regents and the state universities to express our opposition to aspects of HB 2372, proposed legislation that would substantially expand the current requirements for state universities under E-Verify pursuant to federal law. Currently, the state universities already participate in e-verify to the extent required by the federal government. However, HB 2372 covers a much broader array of contracts than the federal government's E-Verify requirements. Additionally, it is unclear whether this bill would require checks of *all* employees. If so, this is *far* beyond the requirement of the federal law. An important point to keep in mind is that state universities already have a federal requirement to do paper I-9 verifications for everyone.

State universities are already affected by E-Verify through their federal contracts and their federal I-9 requirements. The state universities provided the following examples of how HB 2372 would create costly administrative burdens for what may be little added value in light of existing E-Verify and I-9 requirements:


- Implementation of this proposed state legislation would require special procedures and account numbers to manage the contracts/awards with these requirements and it would create a significant burden for the university as a whole. Additionally, the timeline is tight – three business days from hire date or date funded on the grant.
- I have never known of an employee who could not supply documents for the I-9, which is the paper version of e-verify that we are required to do. In addition to the paper I-9s, there are background checks and, of course, visa requirements.
- The bill's broad application to any contract over \$5,000 raises concerns about getting contractors to do business with the universities. It could result in having fewer vendors competing for university business.

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- It appears that this bill would require utilization of E-Verify for all new hires. I am concerned about the workload this would place on our office and student employment.

In summary, the administrative burdens would be especially heavy. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andy Tompkins". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Andy Tompkins  
President & CEO