



# KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

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## **BOARD ISSUES STATEMENT ON LEGISLATURE'S RECENT APPROVAL OF GAMING**

(TOPEKA) – Today Reginald L. Robinson, President and CEO of the Kansas Board of Regents, issued the following statement regarding the State Legislature's recent approval of gaming:

“The Board of Regents understands that the issue of gaming is a difficult one for state policymakers. We certainly appreciate the perspectives of all of the members of both the House and the Senate who were called upon to vote on the most recently adopted proposal. And, we offer our special thanks to the members of the House and the Senate who, through their affirmative votes, have identified a new source of revenue for the State of Kansas. In today's complex budget environment, with a multitude of competing demands for a limited amount of state dollars, securing new sources of revenue is so vital for the future viability of the state's higher education system.

Because the issue of state university building maintenance grows only more expensive and more dangerous the longer it is put off, it is imperative that a significant amount of the newly-generated gaming revenues soon be allocated specifically for the repair of the crumbling state-owned buildings on our university campuses.

Significant investment in our state universities is vital if we intend to keep our best and brightest students in Kansas. In addition, as the Docking Institute's recent economic impact study confirmed, an investment in our state university campuses will result in an immediate and significant boost for the Kansas economy. With these new resources, we look forward to working together with policymakers to protect the investment Kansans have made in our invaluable state university infrastructure.”

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