

HOUSE BILL No. 2510

By Committee on Higher Education

1-13

AN ACT relating to technical colleges; providing for technical colleges to be merged with a community college; providing for financing related thereto; amending K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 72-4470 and repealing the existing section; also repealing K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 72-4470a.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

New Section 1. (a) On July 1, 2006, each technical college supervised by the state board of regents shall be merged into a community college designated by the state board of regents. On or before December 31, 2004, the state board of regents shall designate those technical colleges and community colleges to be merged.

(b) On or before December 31, 2004, the state board of regents shall designate the home county and the geographic territory of each merged community college and technical college and shall assign counties in which the main campus of a state educational institution is located to the territory of a community college for purposes of mill levy taxation for the support of the community college after July 1, 2006.

(c) On January 1, 2006, the board of trustees of each community college that is designated to be merged with a technical college pursuant to subsection (a), shall be combined with the governing body of the technical college designated by the state board of regents. Each such merged board of trustees and governing body of the technical college shall be referred to as the "joint board". Prior to July 1, 2006, the board of trustees of the community college and the governing body of the technical college shall continue to operate their respective colleges. Each such joint board shall operate, control and manage their merged community college and technical college on and after July 1, 2006. On or before April 1, 2006, each joint board shall submit to the state board of regents a plan to replace the joint board with a new governing body on July 1, 2006. The plan shall include, but not be limited to, provisions relating to:

- (1) The composition of the new governing board;
- (2) the method of election or appointment and the terms of service of the members of the new governing board;
- (3) the manner, terms and conditions relating to the disposition of property, assets and liabilities of the community college and technical

1 college; and

2 (4) personnel matters and provisions relating to terms of
3 employment.

4 (d) The state board of regents may either approve the plan as sub-
5 mitted or may modify and approve as modified any plan. The state board
6 of regents shall notify each affected county election officer regarding elec-
7 tion matters relating to the new governing body of the combined com-
8 munity college and technical college.

9 (e) On or after July 1, 2006, the joint board and the new governing
10 body authorized by subsection (c) shall possess all powers, duties and
11 functions provided by law relating to community colleges and technical
12 colleges.

13 New Sec. 2. (a) Any faculty member or employee of a community
14 college or technical college affected by this act at the time of merger shall
15 retain all accrued sick leave, vacation leave and personal leave accrued at
16 the time of such merger.

17 (b) Any faculty member or employee of a community college or techni-
18 cal college affected by this act at the time of merger shall remain eligible
19 for any early retirement incentive program or benefits as if no merger
20 had occurred.

21 New Sec. 3. (a) The provisions of this section shall apply only to
22 community colleges that have been merged with a technical college pur-
23 suant to this act.

24 (b) For the purpose of providing funds for the maintenance and op-
25 eration of the merged technical college and community college the joint
26 board or the new governing body is authorized to levy a tax on the taxable
27 tangible property of the home county and the geographic territory of the
28 merged community college and technical college. Such tax levies shall be
29 the amount determined by the governing body to be sufficient to finance
30 that part of the budget of the merged community college and technical
31 college which is not financed from any other source provided by law.

32 Sec. 4. On and after July 1, 2006, K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 72-4470 is
33 hereby amended to read as follows: 72-4470. (a) ~~Except as provided by~~
34 ~~K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 72-4470a, and amendments thereto, the governing~~
35 ~~body of a technical college shall be the board of the former area vocational~~
36 ~~school or the board of control of the former area vocational-technical~~
37 ~~school, whichever is applicable. Such board or board of control~~ *The joint*
38 *board and the new governing body established pursuant to section 1* shall
39 operate, control and manage a technical college in the same manner and
40 to the same extent that was provided by law for the operation, manage-
41 ment and control of the former area vocational school or area vocational-
42 technical school and nothing in this act shall be applied or construed in
43 any manner so as to change or affect any power, duty or function of a

1 ~~board or board of control~~ with respect to such operation, management
2 and control.

3 (b) The ~~board or board of control of a technical college~~ *joint board*
4 *and governing body established pursuant to section 1*, in addition to such
5 other powers expressly granted by law and subject to rules and regulations
6 of the state board of regents, is hereby granted the following powers:

7 (1) To determine the vocational, technology, and general education
8 courses of instruction that will comprise the associate of applied science
9 degree programs of the college;

10 (2) to establish the requirements for satisfactory completion of the
11 associate of applied science degree programs of the college;

12 (3) to confer the associate of applied science degree upon students
13 who successfully complete an associate of applied science degree program
14 of the college and to award a certificate or diploma to students who suc-
15 cessfully complete a vocational education program of the college; and

16 (4) to appoint teaching staff and to fix and determine teacher quali-
17 fications, duties and compensation. No teacher appointed to teach courses
18 comprising the associate of applied science degree programs of the col-
19 lege shall be required to meet certification requirements greater than
20 those required in the state educational institutions.

21 ~~(c) The provisions of this section shall expire on June 30, 2009.~~

22 Sec. 5. K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 72-4470a is hereby repealed.

23 Sec. 6. On and after July 1, 2006, K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 72-4470 is
24 hereby repealed.

25 Sec. 7. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
26 publication in the statute book.

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