

## MINUTES OF THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jean Schodorf at 1:30 p.m. on January 25, 2011, in Room 152-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Anthony Hensley – excused  
Senator Bob Marshall - excused

Committee staff present:

Sharon Wenger, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Laura Younker, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Jason Long, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Eunice Peters, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Dale Dennis, Deputy Commissioner, Kansas Department of Education  
Dorothy Gerhardt, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Dr. Matthew Ladner, Vice President for Research, Goldwater Institute  
Jim Bingham, Assoc. Vice Chancellor for Information Resources, University of Kansas Medical Center  
Sue Peterson, Kansas State University (written only)  
Michael D. Erickson, Emporia State University (written only)  
Dr. Andy Tompkins, President & CEO, Kansas Board of Regents (written only)

Others attending:

See attached list.

### **Presentation: Demography/Destiny; Florida's K-12 Reform Lessons for the Nation**

Dr. Matthew Ladner, Vice President for Research with the Goldwater Institute, presented a report (Attachment 1) on his study of the education system in the nation entitled “The Nation's Report Card”. The presentation centered on studies of schools and test scores in reading in Florida beginning in the 1998 through the most current available.

### **Hearing on SB 8 – Defining information technology project for state universities under the control of the state board of regents**

Jason Long, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, presented a brief summary of **SB 8**. This proposed legislation would change the definition of “Information Technology Project” related to state universities under the control of the Board of Regents. The bill would increase the minimum cost from \$250,000 to \$1.0 million or more, including \$500,000 or more from external sources, before approval would be required by the Executive Chief Information Technology Officer in the Department of Administration. The bill would also exclude infrastructure projects at the state universities from the definition of Information Technology Project. The Board of Regents notes that reducing the reporting burden would result in reduced overhead costs.

Mr. Jim Bingham, Associate Vice Chancellor for Information Resources at the University of Kansas Medical Center (Attachment 2), appeared before the committee in support of the proposed legislation. He stated that with this legislation the ceiling for state involvement in Regents' IT planning processes would be raised from \$250,000 to \$1,000,000 and would exempt from the process entirely “infrastructure projects”. Infrastructure projects are those focused on replacing or upgrading existing computer hardware and software as well as the incidental IT and telecommunications costs associated with new building construction.

Written testimony in support of **SB 8** was received from Kansas State University (Attachment 3), Emporia State University (Attachment 4), and Dr. Andy Tompkins, President & CEO, Kansas Board of Regents (Attachment 5).

The hearing on **SB 8** was continued to a later date.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the Senate Education Committee at 1:30 p.m. on January 25, 2011, in Room 152-S of the Capitol.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2011.

The meeting was adjourned at 02:30 p.m.

# SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: 1-25-11

NAME	REPRESENTING
Matthan Ladner	Goldwater Institute
James Bingham	KU Med Center
<del>Kathy Damon</del>	KU
Diane Goddard	KU
Julie Lotts	KU
Jaci Matney	KU
Ken Stafford	KSU
Mary Henry	USD 233
Bryan Desiringa	KITO
Bill Roth	KITO
Kip Peterson	KBOR
Brenna Duffy	Intern
Craig Grant	
Marlene Merrill	
Derek Henry	KEN LAW FIRM
Brad Williams	KBOR
Rachel Whitten	Kansas Reporter
Andy Schlapp	WSU
Victoria A. White	Pitt State

## SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: 1-25-11

[illegible]

# Demography ≠ Destiny Florida's K-12 Reform Lessons for the Nation

by

Dr. Matthew Ladner  
Vice President for Research

For  
Kansas Senate – Education Committee  
January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011




---

---

---

---

---

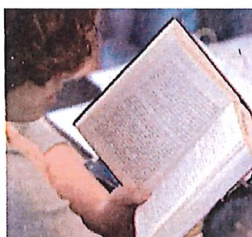
---

---

---

National Assessment of Educational Progress

## THE NATION'S REPORT CARD



NOW AVAILABLE.

The results of the 2009 reading assessment for our nation's 4th- and 8th-graders have just been released.

View results, data from your state, sample questions, and more.

---

---

---

---

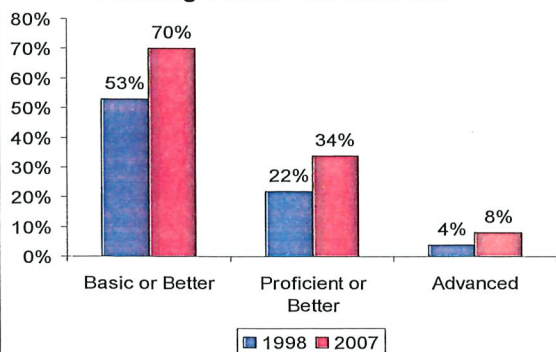
---

---

---

---

Figure 1: Florida 4th Grade NAEP Reading Scores- 1998 and 2007




---

---

---

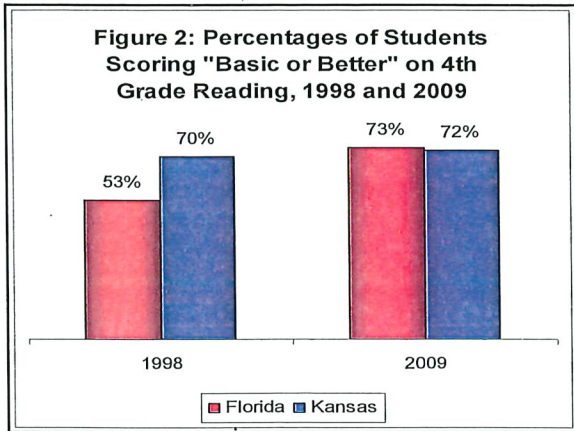
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

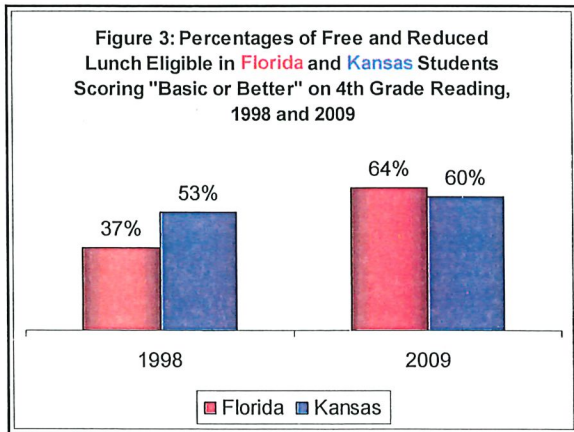
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

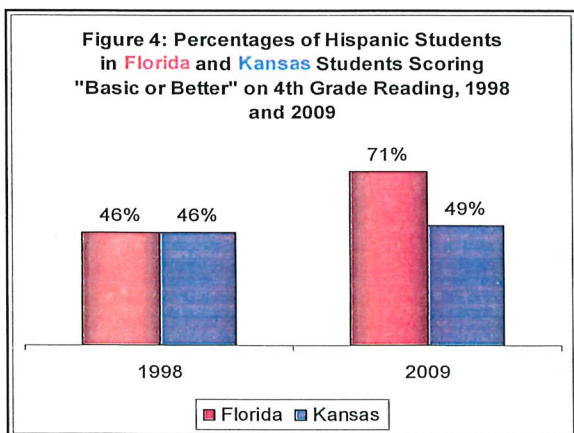
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

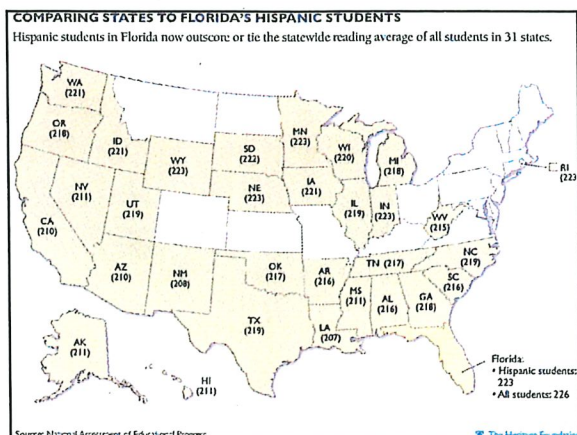
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

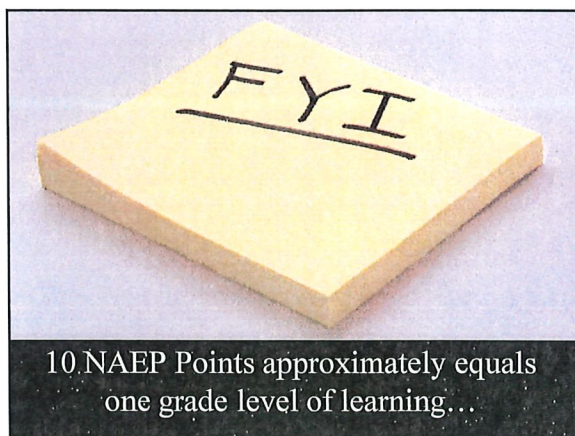
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

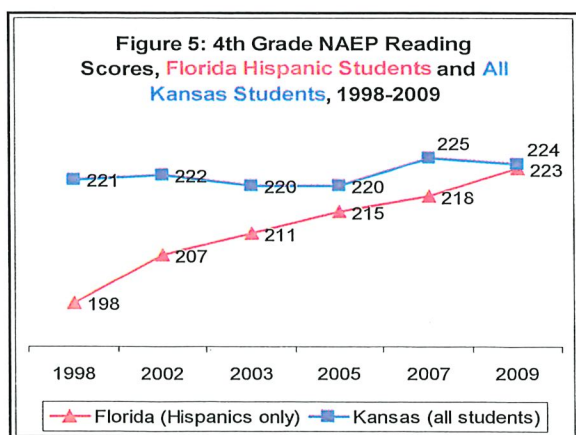
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

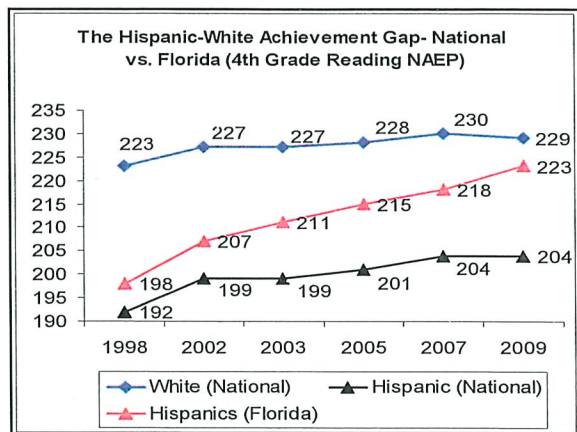
---

---

---

---

Would you like to see what closing  
an achievement gap looks like?



## The Florida K-12 Reforms

**Grading schools A-F** based upon student achievement scores and learning gains.

**Parental Choice**- the nation's largest voucher program (McKay Scholarships), largest private school tax credit program (Step Up for Students). The nation's sixth strongest charter school law, with 379 charter schools educating over 100,000 students. Florida is also a national leader in virtual schooling.

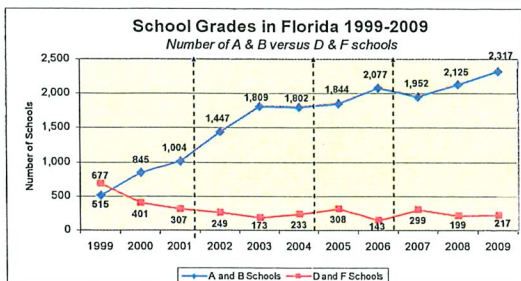
**Alternative Teacher Certification**- the nation's leader, Florida now hires approximately half of all new teachers from alternative certification routes. The percentage of teachers who are Hispanic or African American increased, test scores are up.

**Social promotion ban** -Beginning in 2003, Florida put in place a social promotion ban for students not learning basic literacy skills by the end of the third grade. Since inception, the percentage of children scoring low enough to be retained has dropped by 40%.

**Just Read Florida** -Florida lawmakers revamped early childhood literacy curriculum and instruction.

**Incentives for Success** School and teacher bonuses for achievement

## Results of Florida A+ Plan



Florida Department of Education  
Excellence in Education

13

## School Grades

Each category has 100 possible points (percent of students)

Reading	Math	Writing	Science
Proficiency	Proficiency	Proficiency	Proficiency
Progress (all students)	Progress (all students)		
Progress (lowest 25%)	Progress (lowest 25%)		

Florida Department of Education  
Excellence in Education

14

## Florida School Choice- Accountability to Parents

- McKay Scholarships for students with disabilities (nation's largest voucher program)
- Step Up for Students Tax Credit Scholarships for Low-income students (nation's largest tax credit program)
- Florida Virtual School (nation's largest virtual program)
- Strong Charter School Law

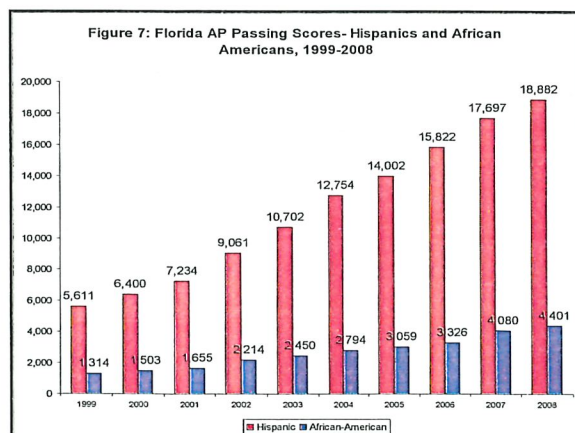
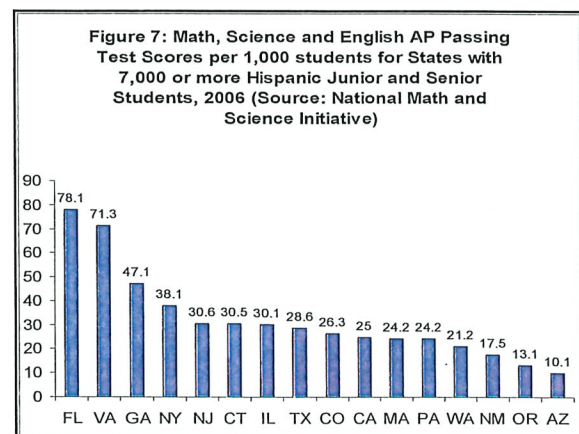
**Appendix**

*1. Influence of Over-age Grade Repeaters on Grade 3 Achievement Trends and Ethnic Composition of Repeaters*

**Table 1. FCAT Reading Performance of the Grade 3 Students in Florida: Pre- and Post-Grade Retention Policy Distributions at Level 1 (lowest) and Level 3 and above (highest)**

Grade Level	Academic Term	Total Number of Students	% of Students at Level 1	% of Students at Level 3 or Above	Number of Students Retained	% of Black Students at Level 1	% of Hispanic Students at Level 1
Grade 3	Pre-policy:						
	2001 - 2002	165,367	27%	60%	6,435	41%	35%
	Post-policy:						
	2002 - 2003	165,414	23%	63%	17,713	36%	31%
	2003 - 2004	206,435	22%	66%	23,348	34%	28%
	2004 - 2005	202,776	20%	67%	20,121	30%	25%
	2005 - 2006	204,238	14%	75%	14,151	22%	19%
	2006 - 2007	203,294	19%	67%	16,676	30%	24%
	2007 - 2008	204,272	16%	72%	13,666	26%	21%
	2008 - 2009	205,194	17%	71%	17,240	27%	21%

Source: Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test, Florida Department of Education, at <http://fcps.fdoe.org/FCATDemographics/Default.aspx>. Retrieved on October 15, 2010.



Thank you for the opportunity to speak today in support of the Regents initiative that has become Senate Bill 8 relating to "information technology projects". My name is Jim Bingham. I serve as Associate Vice Chancellor for Information Resources at the University of Kansas Medical Center. I'm also appearing here this afternoon as the Chair of the Regents' IT Council. We, the Regents Universities, are unified in our support of this bill.

Since 1998, Regents Universities and Kansas State agencies have been subject to formal state oversight of information technology projects by the Enterprise Project Management Office under the authority of the State Chief Information Technology Officer. With this new legislation, the Regents universities are trying to reduce the bureaucratic overhead that creates unnecessary, redundant work for the universities and incurs unnecessary costs against substantially-reduced university budgets.

Briefly, with this legislation, we propose to raise the ceiling for state involvement in Regents IT planning processes from \$250,000 to \$1,000,000 and to exempt from the process entirely what we call "infrastructure projects". Infrastructure projects are those focused on replacing or upgrading existing computer hardware and software as well as the incidental IT and telecommunications costs associated with new building construction.

I'd like to clarify up front that all of the people involved in the IT Project Management process are good people with good motives with whom the Regents Universities have good relations. In particular the current employees of the Enterprise Project Management Office are helpful and accommodating. The Regents Universities simply wish to update the IT Project Management process to meet changed times and conditions.

The current Kansas statute defining Kansas IT Project Management processes was passed in the winter of 1998. At that time:

- The internet "dot.com boom...and bust" had not yet boomed.
- Your personal computer was running Windows 95...unless it was still running Windows 3.1.
- The hottest issue in information technology was IT Armageddon, also known as Y2K.

That was quite a while ago. The core requirements of Senate Bill 5 have not changed since, although a number of additions to the IT Project Management process have been made. Those additions have added to the compliance and reporting burden, not reduced it.

Since 1998, our Regents Institutions – like many institutions, I’m sure— have greatly evolved in the area of Information Technology. All of them now have experience deploying and managing enterprise-level financial and human resources systems. All of them have substantial experience managing information security. All of them have substantial experience in managing IT projects.

And all of the Regents Universities now have state-certified IT Project Managers. That is to say, they have Project Managers who have successfully completed the state’s formal curriculum in project management and should be able to manage projects independently.

Additionally, three Regents Universities have project managers certified by the independent Project Management Institute as Project Management Professionals, the “gold standard” for project management certification.

Since the legislation was passed 12 years ago, technology costs have changed and the complexity of IT has changed, making \$250,000 an extremely low threshold for enterprise-scale projects in 2011. In addition, the \$250,000 threshold is a one-size-fits-all figure that applies to everything from a complex enterprise like the University of Kansas Medical Center to the Kansas Cosmetology Board. We are very different enterprises. A \$250,000 undertaking is a major effort for the Cosmetology Board, but a very modest initiative for a major research university.

In addition, the planning process methodology, based on 15-year old frameworks for application development (coding), is inappropriate for infrastructure projects and adds considerable unproductive overhead to otherwise routine IT and telecommunication activities.

Reducing the project reporting burden to the state by enactment of SB 8 is entirely consistent with the principles embodied in block grants and decentralized purchasing authority that the Legislature has granted to the Regents institutions. This is a continuation of that approach. It is designed to save money and reduce unnecessary, duplicative and costly processes.

The block grant model gives universities great incentives to make prudent IT management decisions.

State agency IT projects, on the other hand, are funded through the state’s ITMBP (Information Technology Management and Budget Proposal) process. Each year a state agency prepares an ITMBP with specific requests for funding IT projects in the next fiscal year.

If the legislature chooses to fund a project, the agency receives new money to carry it out. The state’s project management process then kicks in to assure that the appropriation is used wisely.

So Senate Bill 8 reduces the project management overhead on both the Regents Universities and the Enterprise Project Management Office without adding any risk to the important IT investments that Regents Universities regularly make to improve effectiveness and efficiency.

Thanks very much for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 8. I’ll be pleased to respond to any questions.

Testimony on Senate Bill 8  
Senate Education Budget Committee  
Kansas State University  
January 25, 2011

Chairwoman Schodorf and Members of the Senate Education Committee

Kansas State University supports Senate Bill 8. The current law requires any upgrade over \$250,000 to be reported and reviewed at the State level. Infrastructure in today's world requires upgrading nearly constantly, and \$250,000 may be a small project. The K-State campus is in a continual infrastructure upgrade which can easily exceed \$250,000. These upgrades are part of the continuous expansion of the network and system redundancy. The campus views the network infrastructure as a continuum that is forever being upgraded and expanded to support the changing needs of the faculty, students, and staff of the university. These infrastructure implementations support K-State partnerships throughout the state and region including distance education, extension offices, research partnerships, and national research networks. The University has a well staffed professional technology organization that can respond quickly and accurately to needs the campus requires. The University also works closely with other Kansas State colleges and universities as well as regional and national higher education consortia where projects, infrastructure, vendors, etc. are discussed and knowledge is shared. These collaborative partnerships provide the university with a wealth of information that we use when making technology implementation decisions.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of SB 8.

Senate Education  
1-25-11  
Attachment 3



# EMPORIA STATE UNIVERSITY

1200 Commercial St  
Emporia, KS  
66801-5087

620-341-1200  
www.emporia.edu

January 25, 2011

To: Chairman Jean Schodorf, Senate Education Committee

ESU supports Senate Bill 8. The change to both the threshold and to the nature of the projects for which the universities must seek approval and subsequently provide reporting to the State of Kansas will improve efficiency for both the universities as well as the Kansas Information Technology Office (KITO).

By adjusting the monetary threshold at which projects must be reported, approved, and tracked, both the universities as well as KITO will realize efficiencies. ESU currently manages all projects involving IT infrastructure with a best practice methodology appropriate for the size and scope of the project. The proposed change in the threshold will not endanger the success of any current or anticipated technology projects but it will ensure appropriate use and increased efficiency of KITO resources as well as ESU personnel resources.

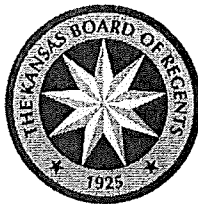
Further, since the original bill was passed, technology infrastructure needs have become akin to facilities' infrastructure needs. Such projects require the application of different project management methodologies than that which is currently reflected in KITO requirements to ensure their success. Elimination of infrastructure projects from the scope of this management and reporting process will improve efficiency and save money without endangering the success of such projects.

Since the bill will result in increased efficiencies with no detrimental impact to current or anticipated projects, ESU supports these changes and asks for your support of this bill.

Respectfully,

Michael D. Erickson

Michael D. Erickson  
Associate Vice President, Technology & Computing Services  
Chief Information Officer  
Emporia State University



## KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

January 25, 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 and the six state universities, I write to you in support of SB 8, legislation that would amend statutes to raise the dollar threshold that currently triggers approval from the State Chief Information Technology Officer (CITO) from \$250,000 to \$1,000,000 and would eliminate infrastructure projects from the definition of Information Technology Project. Currently, state university projects undertaken above the \$250,000 level must be approved by the CITO, a process that was created 12 years ago. Today, significant changes in technology costs have made this an extremely low threshold for projects. This proposed change would increase efficiency by reducing the reporting burden and staff costs/overhead.

The current reporting and approval process was established 12 years ago primarily for other state agencies as a planning and budgeting process by which they are requesting a project budget and then held accountable for reporting on the use of those funds. The state universities do not request specific project funding but are required to follow the same process, and the state universities move at a very different pace than the current CITO approval process allows. The amount of time it takes to go through this process does not blend well with the agility necessary to implement a project, particularly when an increasing number of projects include some element of leverage and negotiations with a vendor. Since this legislation was passed 12 years ago, all of the state universities have developed capable Information Technology (IT) and telecommunications support groups who are capable of routinely handling infrastructure projects. In the last 12 years, technology costs have changed, the complexity of IT has changed, making \$250,000 an extremely low threshold for enterprise scale projects. In addition, the \$250,000 threshold is a one-size-fits-all figure intended to cover everything from a university to the Kansas Board of Cosmetology. A \$250,000 undertaking is a major effort for the Cosmetology Board but a very modest initiative for a state university. In addition, the planning process methodology, based on 15-year old frameworks for application development, is inappropriate for infrastructure projects and adds considerable unproductive overhead to otherwise straightforward, routine IT and telecommunication activities. Reducing the project

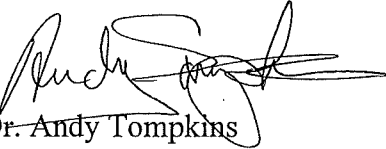
★ LEADING HIGHER EDUCATION ★

*Senate Education*  
*1-25-11*  
*Attachment 5*

reporting burden (and staff cost/overhead of generating those reports) to the state results in increased efficiencies and is consistent with the principles embodied in block grants and decentralized purchasing authority.

Thank you for your consideration of SB 8.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andy Tompkins", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Dr. Andy Tompkins  
President & CEO