Testimony before Senate Education Committee SB 44 Promise Scholarship Act Eligibility Mike O'Neal on behalf of Wichita Technical Institute <u>mike@onealconsultingks.com</u>

Feb. 4, 2025

In-person testimony in SUPPORT

Madam Chairman and members of the Committee

I'm here representing Wichita Technical Institute, which focuses on training students with marketable skills in 6 technical and healthcare fields. Here with me today is Jenna Akpan with WTI who will provide you an excellent overview and answer any questions you might have.

Given the demand for high quality technical training in Kansas it makes sense to expand the current eligibility for participation in the Promise Scholarship Act. The provisions of SB 44 contain, on pg. 1, lines 22-27, the strict parameters for eligibility that WTI is pleased to say they are qualified to meet.

We do understand that there is a need to increase the existing scholarship cap and would ask that the committee approve the attached balloon amendment that accomplishes that.

With that I'm happy to introduce Jenna Akpan and would be happy to answer questions, although Jenna will be the best qualified person to handle that.

Thank you.