



To: Senate Education Committee
Senator Renee Erikson, Chair

From: Jim Genandt, President
Kansas Technical Colleges

Date: February 4, 2025

Re: OPPONENT testimony SB 44

Chair Erickson and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in opposition of Senate Bill 44. Thank you for allowing me to share the concerns from the Kansas Technical Colleges (KTC) regarding the proposed changes SB 44 would make to the Kansas Promise Act. Our seven institutions focus on workforce and economic development to benefit our communities and the state of Kansas.

The Promise Act was implemented to assist the public two-year sector, including our members, in delivering targeted support to Kansans in the workforce pipeline. This proposal would reduce and impede the success of existing programs utilizing the Promise Act in training the workforce for Kansas.

The funding for the Promise Act is capped at \$10 million dollars, which would be diluted through the approval of SB 44, rendering the program less effective. Last year for example applications for the program were paused months early due to running out of funds. More institutions in the mix will only accelerate the problem. Our members and the other colleges currently supported by the Promise Act have developed specific and effective relationships with their regional employers to optimize the impact of the Promise Act to have rapid and direct return on investment in Kansas, as well as retention of these workers with local companies.

Our members oppose this measure and ask that the Committee take no further action on Senate Bill 44.

Respectfully submitted,

James Genandt