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Sam Brownback, Governor

February 9, 2011

The Honorable Clay Aurand, Chairperson House Committee on Education Statehouse, Room 174-W Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Aurand:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2064 by House Committee on Vision 2020

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2064 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2064 would create the Kansas Higher Education Commission to be composed of 22 members including the Secretary of the Department of Commerce serving as chairperson. All other appointments to the Commission would be made by the Governor. The Commission would have a variety of responsibilities. Included in those responsibilities would be determining the value of postsecondary education programs to taxpayers and the state, with emphasis on the number of graduates who remained in the state for five years after graduation. It would also examine the value of creating additional professional programs in collaboration with those in other states; determine the percentage of the total budget of higher educational institutions that should be paid by the student, state, and other sources; examine and recommend the state's role in funding personnel, infrastructure, programs and other components; and recommend existing educational programs that the state should expand to meet workforce needs.

The bill would require the Commission to meet at least annually and more often upon the call of the chairperson. Also, an update to the Legislature and Governor by January 1, 2012, and a final report by January 1, 2013, would be required. The staff of the Board of Regents and Legislative Research Department would provide staffing and assistance to the Commission. The bill would authorize the payment of compensation, subsistence, mileage, and other expenses.

HB 2064 authorizes the payment of compensation, subsistence, mileage, and other expenses for parents, students, and community representatives attending Commission meetings, which would be 17 individuals. The other five individuals would be compensated by their employer. The cost per person would be \$35 per day compensation, \$79 per night lodging, \$39 per day for meals, 50 cents per mile for travel, and other expenses. The actual expenditures that would be required cannot be determined because the locations of the meetings and the commissioners' locations, which would affect travel time and length of stay, are unknown. The number of meetings is also unknown. However, the bill does not indicate which agency would be responsible for the expenditures of the Commission members for attendance at meetings or subcommittee meetings.

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The Board of Regents notes that because of current budget restraints, additional staff and expenditures could not be added in order to provide staffing for this Commission. As a result it would be necessary to prioritize work assigned to existing staff by the Board, the Technical Education Authority, and this proposed Commission. There would also be a time commitment for the state universities in monitoring and participating in the work of the Commission. The Legislative Research Department would also be responsible for staffing, but the Department could absorb the cost within its current budget. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2064 is not reflected in *The FY 2012 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,

Steven J. Anderson, CPA, MBA Director of the Budget

cc: Diane Duffy, Board of Regents Jeff Russell, Legislative Services Alan Conroy, KLRD Traci Herrick, Commerce