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Senate Ways and Means Committee
March 19, 2024
SB 552

University Contractors Association of Kansas
Proponent Testimony in Support of SB 552

Chairman Billinger and members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing the University Contractors Association of Kansas (UCA) to offer testimony in support of Senate Bill 552, which would establish the Kansas Campus Restoration Act to address Kansas' second largest liability following KPERS: deferred maintenance.

The state university system has over 1,130 facilities consisting of 38 million square feet and covering 28,000 acres.

50% of these facilities are mission-critical.

And half of the mission-critical facilities (280+) are over 50 years old.

In statute, the EBF has remained stable for many decades as it provides a minimum baseline used for the construction, reconstruction, equipment, and repair of mission-critical buildings. That said, the footprint of the universities has grown at a greater rate than the mill levy, which has small, steady growth year over year.

The findings of a KBOR-issued facilities condition assessment (FCA) show that the estimated maintenance backlog for mission-critical buildings, commonly referred to as "EBF eligible", was approximately \$1,278,359,200. This number represents the cost to repair and bring the aforementioned mission-critical facilities to a "B" rating.

As a result, KBOR implemented a new goal: investing 2% of a building's overall value back into maintenance each year. In order to accomplish this goal, it's going to take a team effort from all parties: the Universities, KBOR, and the Legislature.

SB 552 is more than just a bill. It's a meaningful concept to solve a significant and ever-growing quandary. If we push this down the road, we are going to be paying even more later.



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Looking at the bigger picture, SB 552 provides the necessary resources for KBOR and University staff to plan, design, and address the deferred maintenance backlog strategically, as opposed to the patchwork system that's been in place.

Our members and organization stand in support of SB 552. Thank you for your time.

Colton Gibson
Executive Director
University Contractors Association of Kansas

About the UCA

The UCA's mission is to modernize infrastructure on state university campuses across Kansas in order to create a safer, usable, & state-of-the-art educational space for students. We were formed in 2021 following the release of system-wide studies of campuses across Kansas. Our member base operates across each of the six state universities and KU Medical Center.