

Jeffrey L. Turner
President and Chief Executive Officer

Written testimony on House Bill 2149: University Engineering Initiative Act
Jeffrey L. Turner, President and CEO, Spirit AeroSystems

Esteemed members of the Kansas Legislature:

I am sending this communication to convey my support of the University Engineering Initiative Act legislation which is now before you. During these times it is more important than ever to do everything in our power to protect the industries and jobs that help sustain our people and our communities.

Engineers play a critical role for Spirit; we use a multi-phased strategy to ensure a constant pipeline of engineers to innovate, design and maintain the aircraft of today and to create the aviation craft of the future. Spirit depends on its ability to design and build, in both metals and composites, the complex assemblies and sub-assemblies that move the state of aviation technology forward.

Spirit needs to recruit increasing numbers of engineers to meet the demands of our growing global business. Design engineers, stress engineers, liaison engineers and manufacturing engineers play a critical role in our ability to design and build exacting products in one of the most rigidly controlled industries in the world. A skilled engineering workforce will positively impact the economy of Kansas. Spirit welcomes the opportunity to collaborate with other Kansas industries and educational institutions and strongly supports House Bill 2149 designed to help attract, maintain and retain more engineers in Kansas.

In today's global economy, it is more important than ever for Spirit to remain competitive and for Kansas to maintain its ability to create economic growth. I believe House Bill 2149 will enable success in both arenas.

Thank you.

Jeff Turner



Spirit AeroSystems, Inc. / P.O. Box 780008 / MC E15-30 / Wichita, KS 67278-0008 / www.spirit-aerosystems.com / Telephone: 316.526.1100

Appropriations Committee

Date April 28, 2011

Attachment 2