

Subject - Proposed bill HB 2425: COLLEGE STUDENT IN BOARD OF REGENTS

I PROPOSE this bill.

Greetings, Members of the House Higher Education Budget Committee, I first would like to thank Representative Humphries, for holding a hearing on HB 2425.

My name is Breckyn Turner, and I am a student at the University of Kansas, and while attending, I have been a part of the Student Legislative Action Committee.

I am in agreement that Kansas college students deserve to have the representation on the Kansas Board of Regents. The current crisis alone emphasizes the fact that we need advocacy among a Student, to represent what we believe, as well as ensure our perspectives are being taken seriously. Important decisions are being made by government bodies that are not affected by those exact decisions. Even more so we need someone that will be able to speak on what we are experiencing currently, from a financial standpoint. Iowa and Alaska have similar models on their Board of Regents, and I believe we should be next. Not only would this experience be extremely beneficial in the stand-point of someone being able to speak on the student population, from their own experience, but it would also be an active role for a student to really implement change and commit to life-long public service. In its entirety the student would be a minority on the Board of Regents, and this would be one step closer to representation and inclusion among the student population in an extremely important government body. This one step, would be such a developmental decision for so many college students in Kansas, and nationwide. For the simple matter of a fact, that they would have hope and pride in being heard, and listened to, despite their age and assumed intellect given that age. Representation among the student population in the Kansas Board of Regents, by specifically a student, is the kind of proactive decision that needs to be made in order to implement change, and ultimately demonstrate representation and inclusion among the student population.

Thank you to everyone in attendance at this House Higher Education Budget Committee Meeting, and especially, Representative Humphries. Thank you for taking the time to listen to what we have to say, and for being advocates for us. I am more than happy to discuss further, so please do not hesitate to reach out with further questions or comments.

Respectfully,
Breckyn Turner

