

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Terrie Huntington at 1:30 p.m. on February 3, 2009, in Room 786 of the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Renaë Jefferies, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Mary Galligan, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Jennifer Horchem, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Kay Scarlett, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Richard Lariviere, Provost, University of Kansas
Danny Anderson, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, University of Kansas
Marlesa Roney, Vice Provost for Student Success, University of Kansas
Kevin Corbett, President and CEO of the KU Alumni Association
Lydia Peele, Student Body President, Kansas State University
Luke Bobo, President, Black Alumni Chapter, KU Alumni Association (written only)
Diane Duffy, Vice President, Finance and Administration, Kansas Board of Regents (written only)

Others attending:

See attached list.

HB 2007 - State educational institutions; waiver fees and tuition at undergraduate and graduate levels

Chairman Huntington opened the hearing on **HB 2007**. Renaë Jefferies, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, explained that **HB 2007** would allow the Board of Regents to authorize a state education institution to award a grant to a student in the form of a waiver of tuition and fees. In line 22 of the bill the words “postgraduate and doctoral” are stricken and the word “educational” is inserted. In lines 25 and 26 obsolete language is stricken from the bill. According to the fiscal note on this bill there would be no fiscal effect on the Board of Regents and the state institutions. ([Attachment 1](#))

A panel of administrators from the University of Kansas including, Richard Lariviere, Provost; Danny Anderson, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs; Marlesa Roney, Vice Provost for Student Success; and Kevin Corbett, President and CEO of the KU Alumni Association, appeared in support of **HB 2007** to give the Board of Regents the authority to allow creation of tuition and fee waiver programs to boost recruitment of nonresident students. If the bill is enacted, one of the proposals the University of Kansas will develop and present to the Regents for review is a Jayhawk Generations Tuition Plan. The plan would be based on partial waivers that will allow the university to reduce out-of-state tuition for those students who qualify. To be eligible, out-of-state students must have at least one parent, grandparent, or legal guardian who graduated from KU; they must also meet all KU admissions requirements. Similar legacy programs are in use in Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri and Oklahoma. The administrators believe a tuition plan like this provides a financial incentive that makes KU and Kansas more attractive to the students who have the potential to contribute to our workforce, noting that Secretary of Commerce David Kerr has indicated that he endorses this proposal. ([Attachment 2](#))

Lydia Peele, Student Body President, Kansas State University, testified in support of **HB 2007** to allow universities to adjust tuition and fees for selected, talented nonresident students. At K-State they believe this legislation would provide flexibility by helping K-State attract and retain bright students to add to the size and diversity of their student body. ([Attachment 3](#))

Diane Duffy, Vice President, Finance and Administration, Kansas Board of Regents, presented written testimony in support of **HB 2007**. In response to committee concerns, she emphasized that although this legislation would amend current law to allow state universities to waive partial tuition and fees for both undergraduate and graduate nonresident students, all programs must be approved by the Board of Regents. ([Attachment 4](#))

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the House Higher Education Committee at 1:30 p.m. on February 3, 2009, in Room 786 of the Docking State Office Building.

Luke Bobo, President, Black Alumni Chapter, KU Alumni Association, submitted written testimony in support of **HB 2007**. (Attachment 5)

There being no opponents, the hearing on **HB 2007** was closed.

In response to questions that arose during her presentation on January 28, Diane Duffy, Vice President, Finance and Administration, Kansas Board of Regents, provided the following information:

- Information provided by each of the board-governed state universities and responses provided by the coordinated institutions about the structure of athletics within their university/college and a general description of financing.
- University-controlled organizations that by state law are required to submit an annual audit by a CPA firm to the Board and the Legislative Post Audit.
- Two examples of independent auditor's reports: Kansas Athletics, Incorporated, Financial Statements, June 30, 2008, and Wichita State University Intercollegiate Athletic Association, Inc., June 30, 2008. (Attachment 6)

Ms. Duffy also provided an update on funding challenges facing higher education in Kansas and discussed deferred maintenance at the state's universities and colleges. (Attachments 7 and 8, respectively)

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m. The next meeting of the House Higher Education Committee is scheduled for February 4, 2009.