



KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 4, 2015

Board of Regents Response

(Topeka, Kansas) - Today the Education Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means issued their recommendations for FY16 and FY17, which included in each of the upcoming fiscal years:

- \$4.7 million in cuts to the University of Kansas Main Campus
- \$3.1 million in cuts to Kansas State University

- \$4.7 million of additional funding for the University of Kansas Medical Center for the expansion of KUMC-Wichita and Medical Scholarships
- \$1 million of additional funding to Pittsburg State University for the School of Transportation
- \$2 million of additional funding to the Kansas Comprehensive Grant program

Board of Regents' Chairman Kenny Wilk responds:

"Several months ago our Board took a position against the reallocation of funds within the Governor's Recommended Budget appropriations to the higher education system. Obviously, we are disappointed with the recommendations announced today. The cuts to the University of Kansas Main Campus and Kansas State University are hurtful to students and damaging to the strategic plans of these institutions."

"In regards to the additional funding appropriated to the Kansas Comprehensive Grant program, while the addition of \$2 million is very much needed, the added language that redistributes the proposed new and base funding among the sectors (independent colleges and universities, state universities and Washburn University) would be disruptive and negatively impacts the number of students who can be awarded this crucial financial support. Initial estimates suggest over 1,050 fewer need-based grants will be awarded to Kansas students if this language is enacted."

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About the Kansas Board of Regents:

The nine-member Kansas Board of Regents is the governing board of the state's six universities and the statewide coordinating board for the state's 32 public higher education institutions (six state universities, one municipal university, nineteen community colleges, and six technical colleges). In addition, the Board administers the state's student financial aid, adult education, high school equivalency, and career and technical education programs. Private proprietary schools and out-of-state institutions are authorized by the Kansas Board of Regents to operate in Kansas, and the Board continues to administer Kan-Ed, a program for facilitating and promoting distance learning and telemedicine in schools, libraries and hospitals. Visit the Kansas Board of Regents online at www.kansasregents.org.