Kansas Community College Testimony
in Opposition to HB 2519

Thank you for the opportunity today to testify on HB 2519. Kansas community colleges are the most economical opportunity for higher education in the state of Kansas, providing a significant return on investment to students who can complete higher education in two years or less and enter the workforce. In order to illustrate the community college program offerings and value, there are various information systems already in place. These systems are already accessible to the K-12 system, parents, and students to do research about what career field, which college, and the cost of higher education for the area of study the student may wish to pursue.

You may be unaware of multiple similar electronic resources already in use in Kansas which are similar to what would be required to be developed under HB 2519. A number of those resources are outlined below.

**Kansa Career Navigator** is a site which was created through partnerships between the Kansas Department of Education, Kansas Department of Commerce, Kansas Department of Labor, and the Kansas Board of Regents.

**Kansas Degree Stats** which is managed by the Kansas Board of Regents and allows exploration of fields of study and cost of attendance.
The US Department of Education College Scorecard which shows almost all the cost of attendance, wage attainment, and student debt information outlined in the bill.
Kansas Career Cruising is a system which allows students to explore careers, the cost of higher education, and the wage they should expect in the career field which they may be interested.

My Next Move is similar to Career Cruising and offers similar opportunities to learn about careers and the cost of higher education.

Additionally, HB 2044 the Taxpayer and Student Transparency Act was passed last session with an implementation deadline of 2021 to provide transparency data to students, parents, and taxpayers on each community colleges website. All Kansas community colleges have complied with the provisions of this law and did so one year ahead of schedule. Kansas community colleges support transparency and agree that it is important that parents and students know what career fields are in high demand, what expected pay in those occupations will be, and the cost of higher education attendance. However, these data are already available online and HB 2519 creates duplication and will increase administrative burden and costs within each community college unnecessarily if colleges are asked to report this information again to KSDE when it is already being reported to various other entities. We support transparency and access to the information contemplated in HB 2519, but believe the goals of this bill can be achieved without creating another duplicative database.

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