

February 20, 2017

The Honorable Carolyn McGinn, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Statehouse, Room 545-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator McGinn:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 174 by Senate Committee on Ways and Means

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 174 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 174 would authorize the affiliation of Wichita Area Technical College with Wichita State University. Wichita Area Technical College would be named the Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology, and the governing board would become the industry advisory board to the Wichita State University president.

The bill provides that the new Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology would offer programs that focus on critical areas of regional competitiveness, including credential and degree programs ranging from a General Educational Development (GED) credential to Associate of Applied Science degrees. The industry advisory board would: (1) Review non-credit and credit programs with the president and senior leadership of the Campus to ensure such programs are aligned with the current and emerging needs of the industry for an educated and trained workforce; and (2) Provide input relating to changes in each advisory board member's industry sector that affect academic programs. The Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology would still be eligible for funding available as currently appropriated for Kansas technical colleges. The designation of Wichita Area Technical College as Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology would be effective only when the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools approves the affiliation as prescribed in the bill.

The Board of Regents and Wichita State University indicate there would be no fiscal effect with the enactment of SB 174, as Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology would be eligible to receive the same state funding sources currently provided to Wichita Area Technical College.

Sincerely,



Shawn Sullivan,
Director of the Budget

cc: Werner Golling, Wichita State University