

As Amended by House Committee

Session of 2020

HOUSE BILL No. 2519

By Committee on Education

1-29

1 AN ACT concerning postsecondary education; creating the students' right
2 to know act; relating to the publication of certain information regarding
3 postsecondary education.
4

5 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

6 Section 1. (a) The provisions of this section shall be known and may
7 be cited as the students' right to know act.

8 ~~(b) Each year the state department of education shall compile the~~
9 ~~following information, which shall be used by the department in the~~
10 ~~preparation of the student graduate horizon scorecard required under~~
11 ~~subsection (c) and the student horizon database required under subsection~~
12 ~~(d):~~

13 ~~(1) A list of those occupations the department of labor has identified~~
14 ~~as having the highest need in terms of open positions in this state;~~

15 ~~(2) the average aggregate cost to obtain a degree or certificate from~~
16 ~~each postsecondary educational institution and private postsecondary~~
17 ~~educational institution;~~

18 ~~(3) the average total student loan debt incurred by an individual who~~
19 ~~has received a degree or certificate from a postsecondary educational~~
20 ~~institution and a private postsecondary educational institution;~~

21 ~~(4) the average monthly student loan payment obligation for an~~
22 ~~individual who attended a postsecondary educational institution and~~
23 ~~private postsecondary educational institution;~~

24 ~~(5) the average student loan default rate for the three most recent~~
25 ~~years such data is available;~~

26 ~~(6) the average graduation rate for each postsecondary educational~~
27 ~~institution and private postsecondary educational institution;~~

28 ~~(7) the percentage of individuals holding a degree who are employed~~
29 ~~in an occupation that does not require that the employee hold a degree,~~
30 ~~disaggregated by major course of study;~~

31 ~~(8) the average salary for individuals upon graduation from a~~
32 ~~postsecondary educational institution or private postsecondary educational~~
33 ~~institution that offers baccalaureate degrees;~~

34 ~~(9) the average salary for individuals upon graduation from a~~
35 ~~postsecondary educational institution or private postsecondary educational~~
36 ~~institution that does not offer baccalaureate degrees;~~

1 ~~(10) the average salary for individuals upon completion of any of the~~
2 ~~following:~~

3 ~~(A) An apprenticeship program;~~

4 ~~(B) a high school credential program; or~~

5 ~~(C) a career and technical education certificate program; and~~

6 ~~(11) the base salary for an individual who enlists in each of the~~
7 ~~branches of the United States armed forces.~~

8 ~~(e) (1) The state department of education shall prepare and publish on~~
9 ~~its website a student graduate horizon scorecard in accordance with this~~
10 ~~section. On or before October 15, 2021, and each year thereafter, the~~
11 ~~department shall distribute the student graduate horizon scorecard to the~~
12 ~~school guidance counselors in each public secondary school in the state.~~

13 ~~(2) The student graduate horizon scorecard shall contain the~~
14 ~~following information:~~

15 ~~(A) A list of the 50 courses of study leading to a bachelor's degree~~
16 ~~whose graduates earn the highest average salary upon graduation;~~

17 ~~(B) a list of the 20 courses of study or educational programs offered~~
18 ~~by private postsecondary educational institutions whose graduates earn the~~
19 ~~highest average salary upon graduation or completion of such program;~~

20 ~~(C) a list of the 25 occupations the department of labor has identified~~
21 ~~as having the highest need in terms of open positions in this state; and~~

22 ~~(D) a list of the branches of the United States armed forces that~~
23 ~~includes the following information for each branch:~~

24 ~~(i) First-time enlistment rate;~~

25 ~~(ii) base salary, including benefits and the average signing bonus; and~~

26 ~~(iii) necessary armed services vocational aptitude battery score.~~

27 ~~(d) (1) On or before July 1, 2021, the state department of education~~
28 ~~shall establish a student horizon database to serve as an online tool for~~
29 ~~students to compare postsecondary education options. The student horizon~~
30 ~~database shall contain a list of the 50 postsecondary educational~~
31 ~~institutions and private postsecondary educational institutions that have the~~
32 ~~highest enrollment in the immediately preceding year.~~

33 ~~(2) The student horizon database shall provide a searchable database~~
34 ~~of the following information for postsecondary educational institutions and~~
35 ~~private postsecondary educational institutions that allows for comparison~~
36 ~~of such information based on the user's data category selections:~~

37 ~~(A) The average annual cost of attendance;~~

38 ~~(B) the graduation rate;~~

39 ~~(C) the average annual salary of an individual upon graduation;~~

40 ~~(D) the average annual salary of an individual who has withdrawn~~
41 ~~from such institution prior to graduation;~~

42 ~~(E) the average salary upon graduation or completion of each of the~~
43 ~~five major courses of study or educational programs that have the highest~~

1 enrollment in the immediately preceding year;

2 (F) the average enrollment of students who are enrolled on a full-
3 time basis, as defined by such institution;

4 (G) the socio-economic demographics of such institution;

5 (H) the racial and ethnic demographics of such institution;

6 (I) the family income demographics of such institution;

7 (J) the percentage of former students who are not in default on any
8 student loan obligations;

9 (K) the average total student debt obligations for an individual upon
10 graduation;

11 (L) the aggregate number of students who accepted financial
12 assistance in the form of student loans;

13 (M) the average monthly student loan payment obligation for an
14 individual upon graduation;

15 (N) the number of students who re-enroll in such institution after the
16 first year of enrollment;

17 (O) for the cohort of students who enrolled in such institution for the
18 first time 12 years prior to the current year, the number of such students
19 who graduated, withdrew from such institution, transferred away from
20 such institution or who are currently enrolled in such institution; and

21 (P) the percentage of individuals holding a degree from such
22 institution who are employed in an occupation that does not require that
23 the employee hold a degree, disaggregated by major course of study.

24 (3) The student horizon database shall include a function whereby the
25 user may select a course of study or educational program at a particular
26 postsecondary educational institution or private postsecondary educational
27 institution and receive an electronic response that provides an overview of
28 such course of study or educational program. Such response shall be in a
29 form substantially similar to the following: "For every 100 students who
30 start [course of study or educational program] at [postsecondary
31 educational institution or private postsecondary educational institution],
32 [number] will graduate or complete such program in six years, and of
33 those students, [number] will be employed at an average annual starting
34 salary of [salary amount] within six months after graduation or completion
35 of such program. The average student loan debt for students upon
36 graduation or completion of such program will be [debt amount]. The
37 average total cost for a degree or certificate in [course of study or
38 educational program] is [average total cost amount]. Those students who
39 do not graduate or complete such program will incur an average student
40 loan debt of [debt amount]."

41 (b) On or before October 15, 2021, and each year thereafter, the
42 state department of education shall ensure the distribution, including
43 by electronic communication, to each student or each student's

1 parents the degree prospectus information published by the state
2 board of regents in accordance with K.S.A. 74-32,303, and
3 amendments thereto, the Kansas training information program report
4 published in accordance with K.S.A. 74-32,418, and amendments
5 thereto, any other information relevant to students' understanding of
6 potential earnings as determined by the department of labor and the
7 potential earnings published by each branch of the armed services of
8 the United States military.

9 **(e)(c) To the extent permitted by law, the department shall enter**
10 **into memorandums of understanding and any other necessary agreements**
11 **with the state board of regents, the department of labor and any other state**
12 **agencies or other entities as required to compile the information to be**
13 **included in the report implement the provisions of this section.**

14 ~~(f) As used in this section:~~

15 ~~(1) "Postsecondary educational institution" means the same as~~
16 ~~defined in K.S.A. 74-3201b, and amendments thereto; and~~

17 ~~(2) "private postsecondary educational institution" means an entity~~
18 ~~that is not a postsecondary educational institution and that:~~

19 ~~(A) Is a business enterprise, whether operated on a for-profit or not-~~
20 ~~for-profit basis;~~

21 ~~(B) has a physical presence within the state of Kansas; and~~

22 ~~(C) offers a course or courses of instruction or study through~~
23 ~~classroom contact, by distance education or through direct training for the~~
24 ~~purpose of training or preparing persons for a field of endeavor in a~~
25 ~~business, trade, technical or industrial occupation, or that offers a course or~~
26 ~~courses leading to an academic degree or certification.~~

27 **(d) As used in this section, the term "student" means any person**
28 **enrolled in any of the grades seven through 12 in a school district.**

29 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after
30 January 1, 2021, and its publication in the statute book.