

SESSION OF 2014

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE CONCURRENT  
RESOLUTION NO. 1616**

As Amended by Senate Committee of the Whole

**Brief\***

SCR 1616 would declare the Legislature supports the Kansas Board of Regents' (KBOR) strategic plan for achieving postsecondary education attainment, known as Foresight 2020. Specifically, the resolution would support the objective of increasing to 60 percent or more, by the year 2020, the number of adults in the state who have a postsecondary credential.

The resolution also would declare the Legislature encourages the KBOR, in consultation with local school district boards of education, the secretaries of commerce and labor, postsecondary educational institutions, the Washburn Institute of Technology, private business and industry, and others, to develop and execute a plan to increase the postsecondary attainment needed to fuel economic growth in the state.

The resolution further would declare the Legislature, in consultation with the KBOR, encourages the development of a performance-based funding formula to achieve the desired goals.

The resolution provides a number of findings, including the following:

- The Foresight 2020 goals are to increase postsecondary education attainment among Kansans, improve alignment of the postsecondary

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\*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

education system with the needs of the state's economy and to ensure state university excellence.

- The state, including business, industry, and individuals, will be best served if the KBOR is supported in its efforts to achieve these goals; and
- Achieving a postsecondary education credential can be a contributing factor to citizens' success in getting and retaining high-quality jobs.

## **Background**

Two Regents (the President/CEO and the Vice Chairperson) testified in favor of the resolution at the Senate Committee hearing. Also providing favorable testimony were the representatives of the Kansas Association of School Boards and the Kansas Association for Career and Technical Education and the president of the Flint Hills Technical College (appearing on behalf of the Kansas Association of Technical Colleges).

The Senate Education Committee amended the resolution to add local school district boards of education to the list of entities with which the KBOR would be urged to consult in developing and executing the postsecondary educational attainment plan.

The Senate Committee of the Whole amended several of the findings in the resolution to change the level of emphasis on achieving postsecondary credentials. As it left the Senate Committee, the resolution described the achievement of postsecondary credentials as "central to" and "necessary for" success and economic prosperity; the Committee of the Whole amendment states achievement of such credentials "can be a contributing factor" to success and is "encouraged for" economic prosperity and meeting workforce demands.

No fiscal note was issued on the resolution.