

Dear Members of the Kansas State Legislature Federal and State Affairs Committee,

I would like to relate one recent consequence of the implementation of the new Concealed Carry law that allows guns on K-State's campus. In summer 2017, the Department of Physics lost a tenured, heavily funded, faculty member. He left us to take a position at the University of Connecticut. His stated primary reason for leaving: Implementation of the Concealed Carry law. Of course, the faculty member's wife left with him – she worked in the Department of Physics as a highly effective recruiter of high school students into the Physics program at K-State. (Since she joined our department, our number of Physics majors went from around 40 to about 80.) The loss of our recruiter/advisor will be difficult to put a dollar sign on. However, the cost of recruiting and hiring a replacement for our faculty member is a bit easier: We have had to bring in 5 candidates, some from overseas. In addition, in order to have any chance of hiring any of them, we will have to come up with about \$1 million in total startup funds (counting money and equipment.) The faculty member who left was part of an \$8 million dollar DOE grant – one that is now in jeopardy of not being renewed because of this loss. The cost in faculty time for recruiting and interviewing is more difficult to compute.

The Concealed Carry ruling has significant fiscal consequences to K-State and to other universities in our state.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Brett D. DePaola".

Brett D. DePaola, Head
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