



Chief Financial Officer

January 25, 2021

To Chairman Smith and the members of the House Taxation Committee,

We are testifying as a proponent in support of HB 2070.

Included in this letter you will find a table outlining the last five years of credit card charges paid by Benedictine College just for payments by our students. As you may note this is a very substantial amount resulting in lost revenue to Benedictine College each year.

In fiscal year 2019-20 alone 32% of our tuition, fees, room and board were paid with credit cards. This, over a quarter of a million-dollar cost, represented 10% of our annual fund donations for last year. Annual fund donations that are normally used to cover student scholarships and other operating costs of the College must be used to cover this lost revenue.

	FY 15-16	FY 16-17	FY 17-18	FY 18-19	FY 19-20
Number of Items	4819	5339	4219	4773	4195
Total Sales	\$9,904,778	\$11,609,304	\$8,801,317	\$11,562,117	\$11,708,829
Fees	\$193,824	\$237,988	\$184,658	\$250,813	\$257,728
fee percent	1.96%	2.05%	2.10%	2.17%	2.20%

Benedictine College supports HB 2070 that would grant us permission to do what the Regents universities, Washburn, and the Kansas community colleges already can do. This isn't about just "lost revenue" and an inability to use those funds for student aid instead, but about competitive imbalance.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ronald J. Olinger
Chief Financial Officer

Heir to the 1,500 years of Benedictine dedication to learning, the Benedictine College mission as a Catholic, Benedictine, liberal arts, residential college is the education of men and women within a community of faith and scholarship.

1020 North Second Street | Atchison, Kansas 66002-1499 | 913.360.7413 | rolinger@benedictine.edu