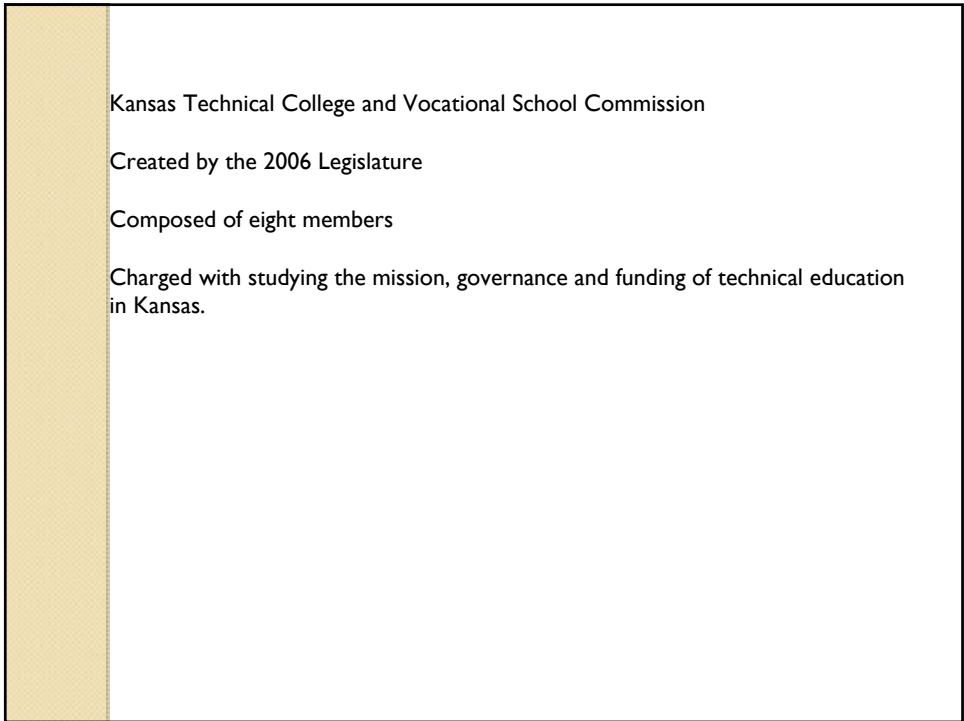


# The Future of Technical Education in Kansas



Kansas Technical College and Vocational School Commission

Created by the 2006 Legislature

Composed of eight members

Charged with studying the mission, governance and funding of technical education in Kansas.



## Recommendations of the Commission: Mission

The Commission concluded that the Mission of Kansas Technical Education should be to:

Provide opportunities for students to attain their educational goals;

Provide an educated workforce to meet the demands of the Kansas economy;

Be responsive to the education and training needs of business and industry;

Provide quality technical training, customized industry training, and continuing education; and

Provide a totally integrated educational opportunity for students who matriculate from high school through certificate, associate, and baccalaureate programs.



## Recommendations of the Commission: Governance

By the time the Commission finished its work, the 2007 Legislative Session had already begun, and several legislators had proposed legislation – 2007 HB 2556 - to address the issue of Governance at technical schools and colleges. The Commission recommended the following

- All postsecondary institutions receiving state funded postsecondary aid for technical education, including the four technical schools and Northeast Kansas Technical College, should move towards some form of postsecondary governance either through a merger, an affiliation, or as an accredited college with an independent governing board, if they have not already done so.
- Introduction of legislation with the provisions of 2007 HB 2556, creating the Postsecondary Technical Education Authority, with the following adjustments:
- Reduce the Authority membership from nine to seven;
- Reduce the Board of Regents members of the Authority from three to two, and allow the Regents members to appoint a designee;



## Recommendations of the Commission: Governance

- Make three members from general public representatives of current and emerging technical career clusters of the state;
- Make two members from the general public at large members;
- Reduce the number of members who can be members from the same party from five to four;
- Reduce the number of members required for a quorum from five to four;
- Require the placement of the Authority's recommendations on the Board of Regents monthly agenda;
- Remove the requirement of a two-thirds majority vote of the Board of Regents to reject the Authority recommendations; and
- Change the appointment of the Executive Director of the Authority from appointment by the Authority alone to a joint appointment and termination by the Authority and the president of the Board of Regents.



## Recommendations of the Commission: Funding

**Add \$38.5 million to \$41.5 million to fund technical education for FY 2008.**

## New Funding Methodology

The Commission recommended the adoption of the following formula to calculate the state program funding rate:

$$\text{State Program Rate} = \frac{X \text{ times } 30}{Y}$$

The formula assumes that:

X equals the instructional costs by type of program per credit hours;

- the average student takes 30 credit hours in an academic year, and that Y equals the percentage of instructional costs as a percentage of education and general expenditures.

The additional cost for aligning rates with educational program delivery costs under the new formula would be approximately \$16.5 million for the targeted industries.

## Additional Enrollment

- Add \$5.0 million to \$8.0 million for additional enrollments in technical education in the targeted industries.

## Technology and Equipment Funding

- Add \$8.0 million for technology and equipment funding for technical education.
- This funding will be available by application to the technical colleges and schools and community colleges delivering technical education in the state.
- Funding would have a \$1 institution, \$2 state match requirement.

## Start-Up Pool for New Initiatives

- Add \$5.0 million for a start-up pool of \$5.0 million to create a new mechanism to fund new statewide priorities and initiatives as they emerge.
- Institutions would apply for the funds, and could use them to help with affiliations with other institutions to provide programs.



## Business and Industry Training Pool

Add \$3.0 million for a business and industry training pool for short-term (non-credit) training, with a dollar for dollar matching requirement from the industry for the training provided.



## Strengthened State Level Support for Technical Education

- Add \$1.0 million to strengthen state support for technical education.
- This additional funding would be used to forecast technical education demand, maintain standardized curriculum and system articulation, monitor program outcomes, refine the state program rate structure concept, and develop and implement a marketing plan for technical education in Kansas.

## Legislative Action

- 2007 Substitute for HB 2556 established the Postsecondary Technical Education Authority
- establish the Postsecondary Technical
- Education Authority (Authority), which would be composed of

## Postsecondary Technical Education Authority Membership

The Authority is composed of 12 members as follows:

- Four members appointed by the State Board of Regents:
  - Two members of the Board of Regents;
  - One representative of a community college that provides technical education; and"
  - One representative of technical colleges in the state, or his designee.
- Three members appointed by the Governor:
  - One member representing Kansas business and industry; and
  - Two members representing the general public.
- One member appointed by the Senate President representing business and industry;
- One member appointed by the Speaker of the House representing business and industry;
- Three ex-officio members:
  - The Commissioner of Education;
  - The Secretary of Commerce; and
  - The Secretary of Labor.



## Postsecondary Technical Education Authority Membership

- No more than two members can be from any one specific technical career cluster.

Of the members appointed from business and industry and the general public, at least one shall come from each congressional district.

In addition, no more than five members of the authority shall be from the same political party.

The chairman of the Authority is selected by the Governor.



## Postsecondary Technical Education Authority Responsibilities

Under delegated authority from the Board of Regents, the Authority would:

- Coordinate statewide planning for existing and new postsecondary technical education programs and contract training;
- Review existing and proposed postsecondary technical education programs;
- Review requests of state funding for postsecondary technical education and make recommendations to the State Board of Regents for funding amounts and distribution;



## Postsecondary Technical Education Authority Responsibilities

- Develop benchmarks and accountability indicators for the programs;
- Develop and advocate annually a policy agenda for postsecondary technical education; and
- Conduct studies of ways to maximize resources to best meet the needs of business and industry, making recommendations to the State Board of Regents.



## Recommendations by the Authority

- Recommendations adopted by the Authority would be considered and acted on by the State Board of Regents.
- Disapproval of a recommendation would require a majority vote of all members of the State Board of Regents, within 45 days of the submission of the recommendation.

## Staffing for the Authority

- The Authority and the Board of Regents would select a Vice-President of Workforce Development to serve as the executive director of the Authority, with the participation of the Kansas Association of Technical Schools and Colleges and the Kansas Association of Community College Trustees.
- The Vice-President would not be a member of the Authority and would serve in the unclassified service, at the pleasure of the Board of Regents.

## Mergers and Affiliations

The bill would require the governing bodies of the following institutions to submit a plan to merge or affiliate with a postsecondary education institution, or become an accredited technical college with an independent governing board by July 1, 2008:

- Northeast Kansas Technical College;
- Kansas City Area Technical School;
- Kaw Area Technical School;
- Salina Area Technical School; and
- Southwest Kansas Technical School.

## Sunset Provision

- 2007 Substitute for HB 2556 sunsets on June 30, 2014.
- Unless the legislation is extended, the new Authority would no longer exist as of June 30, 2014.

## Continuation of the Kansas Technical College and Technical School Commission

2007 Substitute for HB 2556 establishes in statute the Kansas Technical College and Technical School Commission.

The Commission would have ten voting members and one ex-officio member.

The Commission meets on call of the chairperson or on the request of six or more members.

The Commission will study and conduct hearings on the governance, funding, and mission of Kansas technical colleges and technical schools.

The law requires the Commission to submit reports of its activities and recommendations to the Legislative Educational Planning Committee (LEPC) with a preliminary report by November 15, 2007, and a final report by November 15, 2008.

The Commission would expire on December 31, 2008.



## Funding for the Recommended Initiatives

The 2007 Legislature added the following funding for the implementation of 2007 Substitute for HB 2556 and the recommendations of the Commission:

- \$817,687, all from the State General Fund, and 5.0 FTE positions for the newly created Authority; and
- \$4.0 million, all from the State General Fund, for technology and equipment at the technical schools and colleges and the community colleges
  - 2:1 match requirement
  - Limitation of no more than 20.0 percent of the total funding available in a given year to be allocated to any one institution.