



1200 East 151st Street
Olathe, Kansas 66062
P: 913-397-8200 F: 913-397-8282

March 11, 2019

Honorable Members of the Kansas Legislature,

We write to you in support of the Kansas Board of Regents funding request, which would add \$50 million in state support for state universities and \$27 million for Washburn University, community colleges and technical colleges.

Our businesses need a skilled workforce to remain competitive and grow. Increasingly, we are struggling to find enough workers with the education and skillsets required for success in our industries. Difficulties in hiring qualified workers pose serious challenges for us in both the short and long term.

This talent shortage is a crisis nationally, and particularly in Kansas. We rely upon the universities, community colleges and technical colleges in our state to provide a workforce that can help our businesses compete nationally and around the world. We believe that increasing investment in higher education will improve our talent pipeline in Kansas.

Kansas businesses have a long history of innovation, entrepreneurship and hard work. We are proud to be part of that tradition and want to see our state's economy flourish for decades to come. We hope that you will consider the Regents' request as a way to support business and economic growth.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laurie Minard". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "L" and "M".

Laurie Minard
VP, Human Resources
Garmin



March 15, 2019

Honorable Members of the Kansas Legislature,

We write to you in support of the Kansas Board of Regents funding request, which would contribute \$50 million in state support for state universities and \$27 million for Washburn University, community colleges and technical colleges.

Our organization relies on skilled workers to deliver an unmatched level of care to patients in our community. Stormont Vail Health averages approximately 350 job openings each week, with 85% of those positions requiring postsecondary education.

The healthcare industry faces widespread talent gaps and shortages. We count on our local colleges to create a workforce that contributes to the overall health and well-being of our community. We believe that the increase in funding for higher education will improve the overall healthcare footprint in the state of Kansas.

Kansas healthcare systems contribute to the state's economic growth, while collectively working to improve the overall health of the community. We are honored to be a part of the Kansas healthcare system and want to see our state's economy flourish. We hope that you will consider the Board of Regents' request as a way to increase economic growth and support business.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randy Peterson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Randy Peterson
President & CEO



March 14, 2019

Honorable Members of the Kansas Legislature,

We write to you in support of the Kansas Board of Regents funding request, which would add \$50 million in state support for state universities and \$27 million for Washburn University, community colleges and technical colleges.

Our businesses need a skilled workforce to remain competitive and grow. As an organization that works closely to bridge the gap between industry and academia, we are acutely aware that Kansas companies are struggling to find enough workers with the education and skillsets required for success in the life science and healthcare industries. Difficulties in hiring qualified workers pose serious challenges for our stakeholders in both the short and long term.

This talent shortage is a crisis nationally, and particularly in Kansas. Life science employers rely upon the universities, community colleges and technical colleges in our state to provide a workforce that can help our businesses compete nationally and around the world. We believe that increasing investment in higher education will improve our talent pipeline in Kansas, and make Kansas an attractive place to start, grow or relocate life science and healthcare businesses.

Kansas businesses have a long history of innovation, entrepreneurship and hard work. We are proud to be an integral part of that tradition and want to see our state's economy flourish for decades to come. We hope that you will consider and approve the Regents' request as a way to support business and economic growth.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David R. Miller".

President and Chief Executive Officer
BioNexus KC



March 14, 2019

Honorable Members of the Kansas Legislature,

We write to you in support of the Kansas Board of Regents' funding request, which would add \$50 million in state support for state universities and \$27 million for Washburn University, community colleges and technical colleges.

Trane, a business of Ingersoll Rand, is a world leader in creating and sustaining safe, comfortable and energy efficient environments that improve the performance of buildings and homes around the world. We recognize a significant local and national need to advance the development of the skilled workforce essential to the growth of our business and our industry as a whole.

In our industry the workforce shortage has already reached the crisis stage in Kansas and nationally as well. We share the aging/retiring workforce challenge that is common with all industries; but in our industry there are compounding factors that magnify the ever-increasing need for a skilled workforce. These compounding factors include an aging building stock in need of renewal, aging energy grid, strategic focus on energy and energy efficiency, [Industry 4.0](#) driven cyber-physical systems, the Internet of Things (IoT), cloud-based computing, data analytics and cognitive computing resulting in an ever-increasing skills gap and workforce shortage.

Trane continues to make significant investments in STEM and Career and Technical Education in Kansas and nationally, as we share mutual priorities for the development of a highly-skilled 21st century workforce with other key stakeholders throughout the country. Our Trane team has demonstrated much of this through our support for KSDE's Kansas CAN School Redesign Project with Trane's *BTU Crew*[™] educational energy programming for middle school and secondary students and our strategic partnership with the Kansas Board of Regents, Washburn Tech, WSU Tech and the [NC3-National Coalition of Certification Centers](#) for secondary/post-secondary students and the adult workforce. The [Trane/NC3 Climate and Energy Control Technologies labs at Washburn Tech](#) and [WSU Tech](#) are nationally-recognized, state-of-art training centers providing students with Industry Recognized Certifications in high-demand, high-tech, and high-wage Climate and Energy Control Technologies (HVACR) and other energy-efficiency related career fields.

Trane relies upon and partners with the universities, community colleges and technical colleges in our state to develop and sustain a workforce that can help our business, industry, and supply-chain companies and contractors compete and grow regionally, nationally and globally. We believe that increasing investment in higher education will improve our talent pipeline and enable more business growth in Kansas.

Kansas citizens and businesses have a well-established track record of innovation, entrepreneurship and success undergirded by hard work. We are proud to be a part of that legacy and we want our state's economy to flourish for many more generations to come. With this additional insight we hope that you will give serious consideration to the Regents' request as a way to support business, jobs and economic growth.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keven R. Ward".

Keven R. Ward
Public Sector Consultant
Trane, a business of Ingersoll Rand
Keven.Ward@Trane.com



March 18, 2019

Honorable Members of the Kansas Legislature,

We write to you in support of the Kansas Board of Regents funding request, which would add \$50 million in state support for state universities and \$27 million for Washburn University, community colleges and technical colleges.

Our businesses need a skilled workforce to remain competitive and grow. Increasingly, we are struggling to find enough workers with the education and skillsets required for success in our industries. Difficulties in hiring qualified workers pose serious challenges for us in both the short and long term.

This talent shortage is a crisis nationally, and particularly in Kansas. We rely upon the universities, community colleges and technical colleges in our state to provide a workforce that can help our businesses compete nationally and around the world. We believe that increasing investment in higher education will improve our talent pipeline in Kansas.

Kansas businesses have a long history of innovation, entrepreneurship and hard work. We are proud to be part of that tradition and want to see our state's economy flourish for decades to come. We hope that you will consider the Regents' request as a way to support business and economic growth.

Respectfully,

Kansas City Chamber of Commerce

Civic Council of Greater Kansas City

True North Hotel Group

Goodwill of West Mo. and East Ks.

Harvey Dean
CEO, Pitsco Education

Chris Giuliani
CEO, Spring Venture Group

Steven L. Edwards
Chairman & CEO, Black & Veatch

Josh Rowland
CEO, Lead Bank

Blake Benson
Pittsburg Chamber of Commerce

Paul Holewinski
President & CEO, Dickinson Financial Co.

Mark R. Larrabee
President & CEO, Greater Kansas City
Arvest Bank

David M. Lockton
Chairman of the Board, Lockton
Companies, LLC

Mark Jorgenson
Executive Vice President and Group Lead –
Community Banking, U.S. Bank

Brad Sprong
Private Markets Group Tax Industry Leader
and Office Managing Partner, KPMG LLP

Dr. Mindy Estes
CEO, St. Luke's Health System

Brad Kraft
President & CEO, Hopkins Manufacturing

W. Russell Welsh
Chairman Emeritus, Polsinelli

R. Cameron Garrison
CEO, Lathrop & Gage, L.C.

Betsy Solberg
Executive Consultant, Fleishman-Hillard

Marc B. Hahn, D.O.
President & CEO, Kansas City University of
Medicine and Biosciences

Steve Sloan
President, MMI Holdings

Jeanine McKenna
President, Emporia Area Chamber of
Commerce

Dick Coleman,
CEO, Miller's Professional Imaging (MPix)

Anne D. St. Peter
Founder, Global Prairie

Bob Regnier
President & CEO, Bank of Blue Valley

Rich Smith
President & CEO, Henderson Engineers

Ken Brock
CEO, Names and Numbers

Gary Shorman
Chairman & CEO, Eagle Communications

Bob Page
President and Chief Executive Officer, The
University of Kansas Health System

Rick Tidwell
CEO, ValuNet, LLC

Matt Sheets
Market President – Kansas City, First
National Bank of Omaha