



## INVESTING IN HIGHER EDUCATION

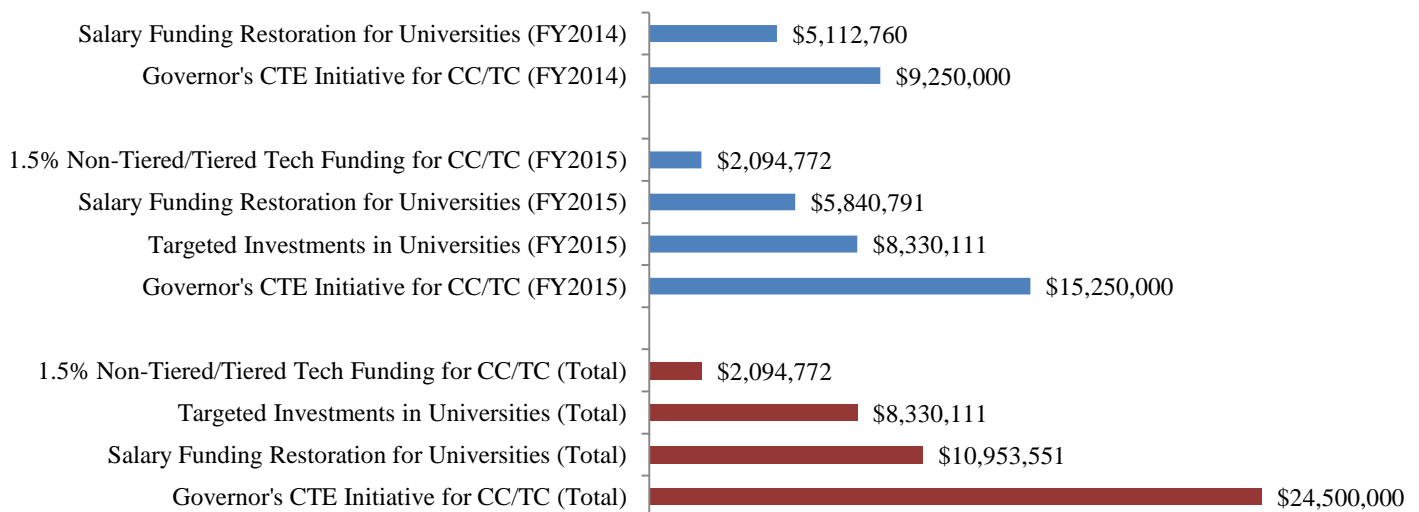
House Appropriations Committee

February 26, 2014

The Board of Regents appreciates your initial endorsement of the House Education Budget Committee recommendations. We respectfully request your continued support of these important adjustments made to the FY14 and FY15 higher education budget. After a thoughtful and thorough review of each university budget, the Education Budget Committee concurred with most of the Governor's recommended budget adjustments, which included many of our top priorities.

Moving forward, the postsecondary system is committed to growing jobs, focusing on degree programs that will meet the needs of the Kansas economy, and pursuing growth and excellence. The restoration of funding cuts and the additional investments selected will support the ability of this system to educate more Kansans, improve workforce alignment, and ensure the best for the students of Kansas.

### **Key Components of the Higher Education Budget Report**



### **Salary Cap Restoration**

Each university presentation made before the House Education Budget Committee spoke to the negative impact of the salary cap, especially those institutions most affected by the imposed reductions. The methodology used to make this reduction had an uneven impact among the universities and resulted in dramatically deeper reductions in the budgets of Kansas State University Extension and Agricultural Research, Emporia State University, and the University of Kansas Medical Center.

With the restoration of partial funding, important investments can be made to:

- Address growing enrollment and attract high-quality graduate students,
- Resume projects that had been cancelled or postponed,
- Increase scholarship support,
- Enhance initiatives to increase retention and graduation rates,
- Further leverage state and community resources through cooperative agreements and student-focused initiatives (such as reverse transfer and expanded statewide transfer), and
- Attract more private support and research dollars.

The Regents and the leadership of the state's universities are available to come before you and answer any questions you may have about the impact of higher education in Kansas. The invaluable support contributed by the state's taxpayers ensures Kansas' postsecondary system is one of the most effective in the nation.