Legislative Update February 3, 2014

The House of Representatives Budget Committee and the Senate Education Subcommittee began their briefings and hearings this week and will continue into the following weeks. Dr. Kirk Schulz, Kansas State University President, will testify before each of the committees on Monday February 10, 2014. The Committee will begin their deliberations soon after the hearings conclude.

Dr. Debbie Mercer, the Dean of the College of Education at Kansas State University, will testify to the House Vision 2020 Committee on Monday February 3. Dean Mercer will present the state universities and brief the Committee on Kansas teacher preparation and licensure.

On Wednesday, February 5, students from Kansas State University who serve as State Officers of the Future Farmers of America will brief the House and Senate Agriculture Committees on their activities.

Last week the Senate Education Committee conducted hearings on Senate Concurrent Resolution 1616. This resolution expresses the Legislature's support for the Kansas Board of Regents "Foresight 2020" initiative. "Foresight 2020 is a 10-year strategic agenda for the state's public higher education system" Kansas Board of Regents, Foresight 2020 Annual Report. The Committee will take final action on the resolution on Thursday, February 6, 2014.

Also, Landon Fulmer, Chief of Staff to Governor Brownback, presented an update on the National Bio and Agro Defense Facility (NBAF) project to the Senate Ways and Means Committee.