



KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

SENATE UTILITIES COMMITTEE
Kan-ed Program
Jerry Huff – Director of Kan-Ed
March 14, 2012

Chairman Apple and members of the Utilities Committee, thank you for allow me to speak to you today in support of the Kan-ed bill before you.

As you know, we have been seeking a way to appropriately respond to the concerns expressed about Kan-ed during last year's legislative session. We believe this bill provides an avenue for addressing those concerns and charting a new course for broadband, distance learning, and telemedicine services for the schools, libraries, and hospitals in Kansas. We believe it is time to move our members to local service providers and fully support the time provided in this bill to get this transition accomplished and allow the schools and libraries the opportunity to apply for federal e-rate support for FY 14. We also believe that even though we are moving away from a Kan-ed network we still need to provide support for distance learning and telemedicine which is also a part of this bill. Since this bill requires us to provide assistance to our members during this time of transition, we envision that assistance to include an assessment of their network usage and training in the preparation of a federal e-rate application.

We appreciate your leadership in creating this new vision for broadband, distance learning, and telemedicine services for school, libraries, and hospitals. We look forward to helping make this vision become a reality. I would be happy to respond to your questions.

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