

Bioscience Industry 2009 Legislative Survey:

1. Name:

Ronnie Metsker

2. What is the office seat you are running for and in what district is that seat?

Kansas House of Representatives - District 24

3. FEDERAL RESEARCH INITIATIVES - Do you support recruiting large-scale federal research initiatives to Kansas, such as the National Bio and Agro Defense Facility which several state stakeholders are currently trying to recruit to Manhattan, Kansas? If yes, how involved should the Kansas legislature be in these recruitment efforts? Do you feel the state of Kansas has assembled the right kind of coalition to go after projects of this magnitude?

Yes, I support NBAF and other bio-science initiatives I support the expansion and growth of the animal health corridor. I have voted in a positive way on every bill in this subject area. I don't think the legislature should micro manage the recruitment efforts, but set policy to allow the aggressive recruitments of Kansas Bio.

4. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - At what level of funding do you support the following state-funded economic development agencies, programs and incentives?

	Increase Funding	Maintain Funding	Decrease Funding	Eliminate Funding
Kansas Bioscience Authority (KBA)	-	Selected	-	-
Kansas Technology Enterprise Corporation (KTEC)	-	Selected	-	-
Angel Investor Tax Credits	-	Selected	-	-
Research & Development Tax Credits	-	Selected	-	-
Business Machinery & Equipment Tax Credits	-	Selected	-	-
High Performance Incentive Program (HPIP) Investment Tax Credits	-	Selected	-	-
HPIP Training & Education Tax Credits	-	Selected	-	-

5. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Using your answers to the economic development funding question above as a guide, please explain your rationale for either increasing, maintaining, decreasing or eliminating funding for each agency, program or incentive. Also, please use the space below to explain any new program/incentive ideas you may wish to introduce or how you plan on reallocating resources.

*** Please note I need more information regarding each of these areas, and what the ramifications are for each. I do not totally understand what is behind some of these categories. I marked "maintain" on all of them until I have more information. I am also concerned about the fiscal situation in the state. We may not be able to add any spending - as a practical matter ... even if we want to expand.

6. STEM CELLS - During the 2008 Kansas legislative session, legislators did not engage in much stem cell research or definition discussion, while in other states (such as Missouri), the topic seemed to dominate their legislative session. Do you feel that stem cell definitions and guidelines should be determined at the federal level or at the state level?

I am interested in thoughtful policy to help us find affordable cures that work and will be available to all people, not just the elite. I am not interested in bills that are politically charged ... I will not support bills that seek to be divisive, demanding and coercive.

7. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTION - Do you support helping to establish guidelines for intellectual property (IP) protection for bioscience companies who wish to partner and engage in research projects with Kansas' research universities?

Probably so, I need to know more about the ramifications for all parties. We do need to protect those who are investing time and resources, so that they can reap all rewards justifiably.

8. BIOSCIENCE INDUSTRY GROWTH - What are one or two areas where you feel you could impact the growth of the biosciences industry in Kansas?

The restrictive legislation that may get introduced needs to be blocked. And, we need to make sure what we do legislatively is not a hinderance to the growth of biosciences, but rather a stimulus.