

Bioscience Industry 2009 Legislative Survey:

1. Name:

Thomas C. (Tim) Owens

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

Kansas Senate - 8th District

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?

I believe we should be very involved in this recruiting effort and i strongly support it. I think the legislature should be as involved as necessary recognizing that not everyone has as much knowledge about it as perhaps they should have if they are in a recruiting effort. I am not sure the coalition is the right kind because i am not as familiar with its makeup except to know that i am not a part of it. I have to hope that the membership is appropriately selected.

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.

I believe we are in a very tight economic situation both Nationally and State wise. This economic status will probably not allow us to increase funding which I certainly wish we could do. At a minimum we must maintain current levels of funding in order to support this critical effort in our state.

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?

Frankly it is time for the Federal Government to take a stand on some of these critical and sometimes controversial issues. The states can do it and can establish guidelines but definitions should be consistent throughout. We also do not want any more unfunded mandates from the Federal Government, so if it comes up with guidelines it needs to be prepared to fund them for the States.

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?

I support guidelines on all critical issues such as this but it must be remembered that this is a contractual situation. The State should negotiate in good faith and in the best interests of the taxpayers of the state. The private sector should negotiate in good faith and be mindful of the contributions of the taxpayers to this effort and not only focused on the bottom line.

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

I am very interested in serving on the Senate Assessment and Taxation committee and have some innovative ideas for tax reform that I believe would benefit economic growth in our State. This should include the growth of the bioscience industry in Kansas as well. For about five years I have been exploring some government consolidation issues that should enhance the efficiencies in government across the state. Finding ways to encourage growth and development across the State (not just in Johnson County) are interests of mine as well. I think growth across the state helps the entire state in the final analysis.