

Bioscience Industry 2009 Legislative Survey:

1. Name:

Bruce Cooper

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

Kansas House of Representatives, 54th 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?

Absolutely, I support recruiting federal research initiatives to Kansas. I would like to see Kansas become a leader in such research. I would hope that legislative leaders from both parties would be part of the lead team of recruiters and that the full Legislature would demonstrate legal and financial support for the recruitment team. My understanding of the team assembled for the NBADF project is that it is a high-quality team. I do not know if everyone is included who should be.

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 that the Kansas BioScience Authority is the appropriate entity to make decisions regarding the majority of our investment in bioscience projects. At the same time I believe Research and Development Tax Credits in addition to KBA funding may be beneficial for encouraging such R & D. I will have to learn more about all the others in order to make more informed decisions.

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 believe that the NIH guidelines should be used uniformly throughout the country.

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?

Yes, I believe the issue of intellectual property protection should be outlined so that researchers and universities both know their rights.

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 would be a strong voice of support for bioscience research and development from the 54th District in contrast to the incumbent who does not fully support the research.