

Bioscience Industry 2009 Legislative Survey:

1. Name:

Ray Merrick

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

Current representative 27th District; Current majority leader Kansas House

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 have been a supporter to get this facility.

Very involved in recruitment efforts with our help and that of Senators Roberts and Brownback and Tom Thornton. We have assembled the right players.

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.

This would apply to all marked. We are in bad financial trouble as a state. I have been warning that we cannot continue to create new programs and keep funding whatever sounds good without follow up as to what is working. We need to solve the immediate financial problem before we expand or increase.

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?

We had other important issues this past session that dominated our time.

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 have always supported IP protection. A private/public partnership would have to be looked at carefully. Who is funding the research? Who is benefitting from the research?

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

(No answer on written survey)