

Bioscience Industry 2009 Legislative Survey:

1. Name:

Marci Francisco

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

Kansas Senate, 2nd 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 do support recruiting large-scale federal research initiatives to Kansas, and was pleased to be able to attend the hearing and vote for the bill establishing incentives for the National Bio and Agro Defense Facility. The Kansas Legislature is the appropriate body to establish incentives. I believe a good coalition was established to promote Kansas as a good match for this program.

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.

Since the tax on business machinery and equipment was eliminated for purchases after July 1, 2006, this credit is no longer applicable.

The current economic situation may make it difficult to continue these programs, but also emphasizes the importance of such investments in these economic development initiatives to build a stronger economic base for 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?

I believe that stem cell definitions and guidelines should be determined at the federal level. Our state legislature has no particular expertise. We are in a strong position to develop research initiatives in the Kansas City area; those could be enhanced if it is clear that the definitions and guidelines are the same for both 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 do support efforts to establish guidelines for intellectual property protection for bioscience companies who want to partner with our Kansas research universities so that individuals are encouraged to establish partnerships.

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 pleased to have been the Co-Chair of the Biosciences and Information Technology Caucus in the legislature. I hope to continue to encourage discussion and support for this industry among Kansas legislators.