

SENATE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

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STATE OF KANSAS

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Natural Resources
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
December 7, 2011

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SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADERS REQUEST MEETING WITH BOEING OFFICIALS

Topeka – Senate President Steve Morris, R-Hugoton, today announced that Senate Republican Leadership, along with members of the south central Kansas delegation, have requested a meeting with top officials from Boeing in response to the company's recent announcement that it will undertake a study to determine the future of its Wichita manufacturing plant.

“First and foremost, Kansas values Boeing as an industry leader, as an employer, and as a good corporate citizen of our state,” said Senate President Morris. “We believe it is mutually beneficial to sit down and work together on solutions that would have a positive impact on Boeing's operations, on other Kansas employers, and on the economic future of our state.”

Morris said he and his colleagues in the Senate hope to learn from Boeing leadership what factors are being considered in the company's evaluation of its Wichita operations, and what policies could be considered by the Legislature during the 2012 Legislative Session to improve the overall business climate in Kansas for all businesses.

“I am confident we can work together to address areas of concern,” said Senate Majority Leader Jay Emler. “Any factors affecting Boeing are likely affecting other Kansas manufacturers. If there is an opportunity to protect our manufacturing base and attract new manufacturing jobs to Kansas, the Legislature needs to listen.”

In a letter to Boeing officials, Morris asked to coordinate a meeting date with Senate leaders and members of the south central Kansas delegation to learn more about the company's study and what factors will be used to determine the viability of the Wichita facility.

President Morris was joined in his request by Senate Vice President John Vratil and Senate Majority Leader Jay Emler, as well as the eight members of the south central Kansas Republican delegation who represent Boeing and its employees. Members of the delegation joining in this request include Senator Steve Abrams, Senator Les Donovan, Senator Dick Kelsey, Senator Ty Masterson, Senator Carolyn McGinn, Senator Mike Petersen, Senator Jean Schodorf and Senator Susan Wagle.

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