FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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KING ANNOUNCES PANEL TO CREATE JUDICIAL NOMINEE QUESTIONNAIRE

Topeka, Kan. – Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman, Jeff King (R-Independence) announced that Deanell Tacha, Stephen McAllister and Reginald Robinson will serve on a panel tasked with creating a written questionnaire for individuals nominated to the Kansas Court of Appeals.

“There are not three brighter, more qualified legal minds in Kansas than Judge Tacha, Professor McAllister and Professor Robinson,” said King. “I’m honored that they have accepted the important task of crafting a questionnaire for Kansas Court of Appeals nominees. Their expertise will ensure that the Kansas Senate has the information it needs to conduct thorough confirmation hearings.”

- A lifelong Kansan, Deanell Tacha currently serves as Dean of the Duane and Kelly Roberts School of Law at Pepperdine University. Previously, she was appointed by President Ronald Reagan as a Judge for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit, serving as Chief Judge from 2001 to 2007;

- Stephen McAllister is the current Solicitor General of Kansas and Professor at the University of Kansas School of Law. From 2000 to 2005, McAllister served as Dean of the KU School of Law. McAllister clerked for Justices Byron White and Clarence Thomas of the Supreme Court of the United States and Judge Richard Posner of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit; and

- Reginald Robinson is the current Director of the Center for Law and Government at Washburn University’s School of Law. Previously, Robinson served as President and CEO of the Kansas Board of Regents. Robinson clerked for Judge Deanell Tacha of the U.S. Court of Appeals Tenth Circuit.

In addition to the questionnaire developed by these three scholars, members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, the Senate Minority Leader and Senate President will have the opportunity to submit written questions for the judicial nominee.

“Combining the work of these top legal minds with advanced questions from Senators will help Kansas have the most open and thorough judicial confirmation process in the country,” said Senator King.

Senator King was elected to represent the 15th Senate District in 2010. King won re-election to the Kansas Senate in 2012, representing all of Neosho County and the vast majority of Labette and Montgomery counties. He currently serves as Vice President of the Kansas Senate and Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee. King lives in Independence with his wife, Kimberly, and two children, Amelie and Alec.