

Ballard wants to stay at KU, even if elected

By Bryan Reber

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Kansan staff writer

Barbara Ballard, associate dean of student life and director of the Emily Taylor Women's Resource Center, filed Friday as a candidate for the 44th district to the Kansas House of Representatives.

The 44th district seat is being vacated by State Rep. Jessie Branson, D-Lawrence, who announced earlier she would not run for re-election.



Ballard

Ballard earned a doctorate in counseling and student personnel services and a master's degree in counseling and guidance from Kansas State University. She earned a bachelor's degree from Webster College, St. Louis.

Ballard said she was concerned about public school finance laws, financing of Regents institutions,

property taxes and health issues.

Ballard has served as a member of the Lawrence school board since 1985. In 1987 she was elected president of the school board. She said her school board experience prepared her to deal with issues surrounding the rewriting of the public school finance laws.

"I know the process, and can be our best advocate for fairness in the new law," Ballard said.

Her experience as an administrator and faculty member at the University of Kansas has prepared her to deal with issues in higher education.

"The cut to the Regents budget imposed by the governor and the Legislature at the end of the last legislative session has caused a serious and adverse impact on our University and hampers our ability to recruit and retain top-notch faculty and staff," she said. "I will support to the fullest extent and fight vigorously for the restoration of that reduction and for funding of the third year of the Margin of Excellence."