2019 KANSAS CITY, MO LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

MISSOURI TOP PRIORITIES

1. **Best in the Midwest**: We support Missouri Department of Economic Development’s “Best in the Midwest” programing through legislation. We also support legislation revising the Missouri Works statute to allow employees with equity in the business to be included in the benefit calculation.

2. **A+ Funding**: We support utilizing A+ funding for enhanced opportunities to support students including dual credit/dual enrollment courses, lifetime learners and workers seeking job retraining.

3. **Chapter 100 Tax Abatement**: We support a modification to the Chapter 100 tax abatement program to ensure that tax revenues from those projects do not violate the Hancock Amendment when their abatement period ends. It would be detrimental to our community if the affected taxing districts never receive the benefit of development projects coming back on the tax rolls.

4. **Missouri Technology Corporation**: We support the Missouri Technology Corporation and restoring funding to previous levels to support Missouri-focused industries through science, technology and innovation.

5. **Local Tax Renewal**: We support the ability for Kansas City, MO voters to approve locally-applicable sales tax and prevent the “capping” of sales taxes. We also support legislation extending earnings tax renewal vote to 10 years.

6. **Transportation**: We support both traditional and innovative ways to fund all modes of transportation throughout the state and region. This includes the upgrade of roads, highways, waterways, rail, public transit and air travel in an efficient and cost-effective manner.
GENERAL PRIORITIES

1. We support new business development incentives for science and technology-based businesses to increase technical capacity, focusing on entrepreneurship. We support the Missouri Partnership as a critical partner of Kansas City’s marketing and business attraction efforts and endorse the continued full funding by the Missouri legislature.

2. We support renewal of legislation eliminating the incentive border war with Kansas.

3. Restore the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program and allow for the Missouri Housing Development Commission to take action.

4. We support consideration for funding the UMKC Conservatory of Music and Dance.

5. Retain existing state economic development incentives and commitments to programs – including MODESA, Chapter 100 bonds, state TIFs, existing tax credits, continued state funding for the maintenance of the Truman Sports Complex and the Bartle Hall Convention Center. We support preserving the practical ability to utilize TDDs and CID.

6. Oppose discriminatory legislation that will detrimentally impact Missouri economic development.

NATIONAL PRIORITIES

1. We support the reallocation of unused Pell Grant funding to include lifetime learners and workers seeking job retraining.

2. Work with KC Congressional delegation to secure Project Leavitt.

3. Continue to work with and optimize the Opportunity Zone program passed in January 2018.