



KANSAS LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



Week of January 22nd, 2024

The **KC Chamber/KC Civic Council** team had a busy week in Topeka. Tuesday, Joe Reardon with the Chamber and Megan Crook with the Civic Council were both in Topeka for meetings and hearings. The House held a vote on one bill this week, while the Senate voted on multiple resolutions. Committees in both chambers held hearings on multiple bills that are making their way through the legislative process. Next week, the Legislature plans to vote on an override of the Governor's veto of the tax plan.

National Guard Tax Credits (HB 2544)

The House Commerce Committee held final action and approved HB 2544, which encourages businesses to hire and retain members of the Kansas National Guard by offering a tax credit to those who hire members and a tax credit to those who choose to serve. There was one amendment that would not allow employers or members of the national guard who are outside Kansas to participate in the tax credit. National Guardsmen would only be able to qualify during the months that they are employed with the National Guard and are of good standing. The amendment also capped the tax credit at \$5,000. HB 2544 will now head to the House floor for a vote.

The **KC Chamber** was joined by the Kansas and Wichita chambers in support of the legislation. There were no opponents.

For more information on HB 2544 visit: https://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2023_24/measures/hb2544/

World Cup Hearings

Katherine Holland, Executive Director of KC 2026, Neal Sharma, Vice President of the KC 2026 Executive Board, and Joe Reardon, **KC Chamber/KC 2026** Board member presented to multiple committees this week on the World Cup budget ask. The Governor included \$20 million in her budget allocated to World Cup and KC 2026 is also asking for additional \$8 million, for a total of \$28 million. This accounts for 17% of the total budget for KC 2026 and the estimated economic impact to the state is around \$163.1 million.

Source	Contribution (million)	Percentage
State of MO	\$74	44.8%
Host City Supporters	\$30	18.2%
State of KS	\$28	17.0%
Private Support	\$24	14.5%
KS Public Sources	\$9	5.5%
TOTAL	\$165	

KC 2026 testified in front of both House and Senate budget committees on Tuesday. Joe and Neal discussed the economic impact of the World Cup to the state and Katherine broke down the budget ask. The World Cup will elevate Kansas and the region on the global stage and the **KC Chamber/KC Civic Council** will continue to support this budget ask as it makes its way through the legislative process. To watch the hearings please visit:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_0NO-Pb96CFABvxDwXAq8A

Governor's Tax Proposal

The Senate Tax Committee held two days of hearing on SB 377 which is the Governor's tax proposal. As previously noted, the Governor's tax proposal is very similar to House/Senate Leadership tax proposal with a couple of exceptions. Proponents of this legislation discussed Governor Kelly's plan includes a back-to-school tax holiday which will be held the same weekend as Missouri's, and the removal of taxes on feminine hygiene products and diapers. Many of the proponents were high school girls who discussed the removal of the feminine hygiene tax. The Governor's tax plan will cost the state \$1.1 billion over three years, Republican leadership's plan will cost the state around \$1.6 billion over three years. Next week, the Legislature will take up a vote on the Governor's veto. The House and Senate each need a 2/3 majority to override a veto.

Hearings

The hearing schedule for next week is linked below.

House:

https://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2023_24/chamber/documents/daily_calendar_house_20240124162647.pdf

Senate:

https://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2023_24/chamber/documents/daily_calendar_senate_20240124165735.pdf

To view House/Senate Legislative Hearings please visit the Kansas Legislature's YouTube channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_ONO-Pb96CFABvxDwXAq8A

Key Upcoming Dates

January 29th – Last Day for Individuals to request Bill drafts

February 5th – Last Day for Non-Exempt Committees to request bill drafts

February 7th – Last Day for Bill Introductions by Individuals

February 9th – Last Day for Non-Exempt Committee Bill Introductions

February 23rd – Turn Around (Last Day for Non-Exempt Bills in House of Origin)

March 28th – Last Day for Non-Exempt Bills in Either House

April 5th – Drop Dead Day – First Adjournment

April 29th – Veto Session Begins

KC Chamber Kansas State Affairs Committee Meeting February 16th, 12-1:15 p.m.

Please note a change of venue for the February meeting

KC Chamber

World Trade Center Conference Room

30 W. Pershing Rd

Kansas City, MO