



KANSAS LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



Week of February 12, 2024

What began as an exciting week to celebrate a repeat KC Chiefs Super Bowl victory, ended in a tragic multi-victim shooting near Union Station in Kansas City. Twenty-three victims ranging between 8 – 47 years old fell prey to two juvenile suspects, both of which have been detained. Reportedly, half of the victims are under 16. Law enforcement responded, those in attendance responded, and people helped one another. As city, state and federal partners continue to investigate and release information, we simply will be thankful for their coordination and quick response. Accordingly, the legislative week was abbreviated.

SB 468

The KC Chamber joined 14 other area chambers in joint written testimony opposing SB 468, which would prohibit cities granting or approving certain property tax exemptions or tax increment financing (TIF) from exceeding their revenue neutral rate (RNR) for property tax purposes.

The KC Chamber has been a long-time advocate for local taxing and spending authority and believes this measure would have a significant impact on our economic development activities, as it specifically targets two tools used for the advancement of our communities. TIFs and IRBs allow local municipalities to be able to invest in projects with a guaranteed return on investment. Options like the TIF District are valuable to these projects, as they allow for a portion of their property taxes to be allocated for improvements such as infrastructure, parking lots, street pavements and related maintenance. We know that having mechanisms to encourage the development of select parts of our communities is crucial.

The chambers were joined by many economic development organizations and chambers from across the state in opposing this legislation. There were three proponents who testified in person stating that this would hold cities and counties more accountable to the taxpayer.

For more information on SB 468 visit: https://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2023_24/measures/sb468/

World Cup Update

The Senate Ways and Means Committee worked on the Department of Commerce budget this week and included \$28 million for the World Cup. They specified that this money would come from available ARPA funds but if none are available, they will come from special funds or the state's general fund. The whole committee unanimously supported the World Cup amendment. The Senate will work the entire budget in the next couple weeks before sending it to Conference Committee.

The House subcommittee that works on the Department of Commerce budget also met this week to finalize its version of the budget. A World Cup budget amendment similar to that from the Senate was brought to this House committee as well. The House subcommittee approved \$28 million for the World Cup. It will now be brought before the whole Appropriations committee next Tuesday.

The KC chamber and Civic Council are very excited that the full \$28 million World Cup ask is making its way through the process and will continue to keep you updated on its progress.

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

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

Thanks!

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