

## Week Ending March 1, 2024

The Kansas House and Senate were on "Turnaround" break for most of this past week. Committees worked on legislation Wednesday and Thursday. The short week allowed staff to prepare for the last half of session. This week, the Legislature will be back to a full schedule.

## The Transformation of Freight and Passenger Vehicle Industry Act

The House Commerce Committee held a hearing on HB 2471 which would enact the Transformation of Passenger and Freight Vehicle Industry Act. HB 2471 creates a new economic development incentive tailored to electric vehicle and hydrogen powered vehicle assembly and will allow the state and region to expand this sector further and strengthen our identity as an electric vehicle manufacturing and assembly cluster.

The **KC Chamber/Civic Council** testified in favor of this proposal joining chambers from across the state in support of this measure. As the electric vehicle industry grows at a rapid pace, the State of Kansas has an unprecedented opportunity to position itself as a center for this industry and a very attractive market for the industry's high-skilled and well-paying jobs. The **KC Chamber and Civic Council** have been staunch supporters of fiscally responsible and data-informed use of economic incentives and believes this legislation fits the model of smart use of government incentives to attract high-demand industry, high-wage jobs and foster much-needed growth.

We will continue to urge support for legislation like HB 2471 that will use capital investment, job creation and infrastructure enhancements to not only make Kansas attractive among other states, but to make Kansas globally competitive in a 21st Century economy.

## **Hearings**

The hearing schedule for next week is linked below. https://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2023\_24/chamber/calendars/

To view House/Senate Legislative Hearings please visit the Kansas Legislature's YouTube channel: <u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC\_0NO-Pb96CFABvxDwXAq8A</u>

## Key Upcoming Dates

March 28th – Last Day for Non-Exempt Bills in Either House April 5th – Drop Dead Day – First Adjournment April 29th – Veto Session Begins

Thanks! Katrina Abraham <u>kabraham@kcchamber.com</u>

> KC Chamber Kansas State Affairs Committee Meeting The University of Kansas Clinical Research Center

4350 Shawnee Mission Pkwy, Suite 20 Fairway KS 66205 March 15th, 12-1:15 p.m.