



Community Bankers Association of Kansas

Kansas Legislative and Policy Report

Summer Update

July 28, 2023

Overview

As usual, it has been a relatively slow summer of interim meetings thus far, but that will begin changing in the coming weeks. Our brief report this month includes some snapshots of activities and information from the last month, as well as information on upcoming meetings that have been scheduled.

Monthly Highlights

June Revenues

- Keeping with the trend, the state's total tax receipts for June exceeded estimates. June's tax receipts exceeded estimates by \$17 million, for a total of \$989 million.
- Further summary of June's tax receipts here: <https://governor.kansas.gov/governor-kelly-announces-june-total-tax-receipts-exceed-estimate-by-over-17m-closes-fiscal-year-nearly-26m-ahead-of-projections/>
- Revenue surpluses over \$2 billion fuel on-going focus on key spending issues such as special education as well as tax relief, neither of which passed in 2023 but are certain to return in 2024.

Notable Campaign Announcements

- While we are still a year away from elections for all members of the Kansas Legislature, there is always information to keep up with, whether it is notable names who are not running again, or new names. Here are a few of note:
 - Rep. Adam Thomas (R-Olathe) announced he will run for Sen. Rob Olson's Senate District 23 seat. Olson is retiring after serving nearly 18 years in the Legislature.
 - A Johnson County Democrat has announced his candidacy against Sen. Mike Thompson (R-Shawnee). Andrew Mall, a long-time realtor, recently announced his candidacy against Thompson. The district includes Shawnee and part of Lenexa.
 - Joe Claeys—brother of Salina Senator J.R. Claeys—recently announced his candidacy for Senate District 27, an open district resulting from redistricting. Senator Blasi, who currently holds the seat, will be moved into District 26 given

the re-mapping. Claeys, a Republican, works as an educational consultant and formerly worked as a school psychologist.

- Former Olathe Representative Charlotte Esau announced she will run again in 2024. Esau was narrowly defeated in 2022 by Democrat Dennis Miller (D-Olathe).
- Senate Health Chair Bev Gossage (R-Eudora) will likely have an opponent in the primary. While he has not officially announced his candidacy, Leavenworth Republican Bryan Zesiger seems poised to enter the race. Zesiger is a winery owner/operator and will have to obtain 485 signatures in order to be listed on the primary ballot.

Interim Meetings

- Several interim meetings have now been scheduled, including the following:
 - Special Committee on Mental Health: August 23rd-25th,
 - Special Committee on Education: October 2nd-3rd, 9th-10th.
 - Special Committee on Homelessness: Thursday, November 9th.
- Other joint committees that meet throughout the year have also scheduled their remaining meetings as follows:
 - KanCare Oversight: August 2nd-August 3rd and October 11th-October 12th.
 - Joint Committee on Child Welfare System Oversight: Monday, August 21st and Wednesday, October 4th.
- Other interims of note, including the Special Committee on Taxation, Special Committee on Restricted Driving Privileges, and others, have yet to finalize their dates.

Interim Financial Institutions Activities

ESG Opponent on KPERS Board

- KPERS added its newest board member last week, Derek Kreifels, who has been a leading opponent of ESG principles. Kreifels is co-founder and CEO of State Financial Officers Foundation which was active last year in campaigning against ESG.
- Other than this news, it seems the attention around ESG has quieted somewhat over the summer, and it is unclear whether the Legislature intends to revisit the topic in 2024.

Upcoming Activities

The legislative schedule of hearings is updated regularly throughout the interim and can be found at:

http://www.kslegresearch.org/KLRD-web/Committees/2023InterimDocs/interim_mtg_schedule_2023.pdf

Wrap Up

Let us know if you have any questions.

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