



Community Bankers Association of Kansas

Kansas Legislative and Policy Report

July Legislative Update

July 23, 2024

Overview

It has been a pretty quiet summer at the Kansas Statehouse, which is unsurprising since most of the 165 legislators are busy campaigning for re-election. There is a lucky handful who face no challengers, but the majority are busy knocking on doors. Our report this month includes a brief look at the few happenings around the Statehouse, as well as an overview of the election landscape as the primary draws near on August 6th.

Interim Committees Approved

- The Legislative Coordinating Council (legislative leadership from both chambers) met earlier in July to approve interim committees. In addition to the usual joint committees—KanCare, child welfare, and budget—that are required by statute to meet, the LCC approved just a few special committees. The upcoming busy months of campaigning means there will be fewer interim meetings in general this year. A few of the new committees and their number of meeting days include:
 - Special Committee on Available and Affordable Housing (2 days),
 - Special Committee on Centralized Pooled Collateral and PMIB Modernization (2 days),
 - Special Committee on Medical Marijuana (2 days),
 - Special Committee on Sedation Dentistry (1 day),
 - Special Committee on State Employee Compensation, including KPERS III (2 days).
- It is noteworthy compared to other years that there will be no interim tax, mental health, or education interim committees.
- Republican House leadership has announced its members for these committees. Here are a couple of interest:
 - Special Committee on Centralized Pooled Collateral and PMIB Modernization:
 - Vice Chair Nick Hoheisel (Wichita),
 - Rebecca Schmoe (Ottawa),
 - Jason Goetz (Dodge City),
 - Adam Turk (Shawnee).
 - Special Committee on Medical Marijuana:
 - Vice Chair Will Carpenter (El Dorado),
 - Tom Kessler (Wichita),
 - Nick Hoheisel (Wichita),
 - Steve Howe (Salina).

- Special Committee on Available and Affordable Housing:
 - Chair Sean Tarwater (Stilwell),
 - Leah Howell (Derby),
 - Cyndi Howerton (Wichita),
 - Robyn Essex (Olathe).
- House Democratic leadership, as well as Senate leadership of both parties have yet to announce their members for these committees.
- For the full list of meetings, including potential study topics, follow this link: https://www.ksrevisor.org/docs/LCC_Packet20240709/Item_2_interim%20committees_topics_and_meeting_days.pdf

End of Fiscal Year Tax Receipts

- On the heels of the June special session tax reduction agreement that will reduce future revenue by \$2 billion, State revenue collections for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 2024, were down.
- Revenue was down \$43 million (0.4 percent); corporate income down \$100.8 million (6.6 percent); individual income tax increased \$28.6 million (0.6 percent).
- https://klrd.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/memo_leg_budget_morrow_sgf_2023_2024_june.pdf

Election Landscape

- Here are some helpful highlights and an overview of the landscape just ahead of the primary.
- Overall, 318 candidates are running for the Legislature (140 Democrats and 178 Republicans).

Senate

- Senate current composition: Republicans 29, Democrats 11. (Supermajority requires 27 votes).
- The Senate will see some notable change, due to retirements alone, as 10 Republican and one Democratic Senators are retiring.
- In the Senate, there are only four contested Democratic primaries:
 - District 2: Francisco (I) vs. Haswood, who currently serves in the House.
 - District 4: Haley (I) vs. Ephren Taylor, a community organizer.
 - District 19: Vic Miller vs. Patrick Schmidt vs. ShaMecha King Simms.
 - District 32 (Senate Majority Leader Alley's district). Lawrence Moreno vs. Michael Soetaert.
- With so many Republican senators retiring, there will be notable change in Senate committee leadership. Senate Financial Institutions, Education, and Local Government committees, at the very least, will have new chairs.

House

- In the House there are 41 uncontested races (25 are Republican). Additionally, there are 25 total primaries in the House (18 are Republicans; seven Democrats).
- In the House, sixteen Republicans and three House Democrats are retiring.

Upcoming Activities

Tuesday, July 30th. 2:00 PM.

- Legislative Coordinating Council meeting.

Wrap Up

Let us know if you have any questions.

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