

2026 CAPITOL GAINS



KANSASCHAMBER
UNITED FOR BUSINESS

SAFEGUARDING OUR SYSTEM OF FREE, COMPETITIVE ENTERPRISE

**United Voice. United Mission.
United Future.**

**KANSAS
FORWARD**

Who's in charge of Kansas' Future?

Progress requires courage—we must make the smart, sometimes difficult, decisions that lead to real growth.

OUR VISION FOR KANSAS



INCREASE STATE POPULATION

Attract and retain people by building vibrant communities, expanding career opportunities, and creating an environment where families and businesses thrive.



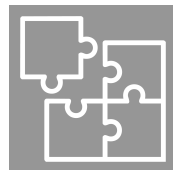
GROW STATE GDP

Grow the Kansas economy through innovation, workforce development, and business-friendly policies that fuel growth.



INCREASE PROSPERITY FOR KANSANS

Create more jobs, raise wages, expand literacy, and reduce poverty so Kansans experience greater opportunity and upward mobility.



ALIGN PUBLIC SERVICES AND ELIMINATE REDUNDANT TAX AUTHORITIES

Streamline state and local services, reduce duplication, and modernize tax structures to maximize efficiency, lower burdens, and improve Kansans' quality of life.

HOW DO WE GET THERE?

- ▶ Recognize that businesses are in charge of Kansas' future.
- ▶ Promote an intentional, business-led growth strategy led by the Kansas Chamber.
- ▶ Hold political leaders accountable.
- ▶ Aggressively move Kansas towards a pro-growth future.

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THE MISSION OF THE KANSAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IS TO CONTINUALLY STRIVE TO IMPROVE THE ECONOMIC CLIMATE FOR THE BENEFIT OF EVERY BUSINESS AND CITIZEN AND TO SAFEGUARD OUR SYSTEM OF FREE, COMPETITIVE ENTERPRISE.



FROM THE PRESIDENT 🗨️



Dear Kansas Chamber members,

The 2026 legislative session was a good one for the Kansas Chamber. With another year of a strict 90-day calendar, the last month was hectic and unpredictable as legislators and lobbyists angled to find paths to passing legislation outside of the traditional process. With only two weeks following turnaround, it left the outcome of policy up to chance and willpower.

I'd like to start by thanking House and Senate leadership for their support of the Kansas Chamber throughout the 2026 session. We have a lot of pro-business champions who were instrumental in guiding the Chamber's priorities and we would not be successful without their buy-in for the Chamber's mission and advocacy work. But as session concludes, 2026 marks a big election year for the state of Kansas. The 125-member House is up for reelection. All Kansas statewide offices are up for election, most notably the Governor's race where a crowded primary field creates nothing but uncertainty on who will come out victorious for the general election.

But this is a pivotal moment for Kansas. Who will lead the state forward and be a visionary to lay the groundwork for where our state will be 10-20 years from now? I cannot stress enough how critical it is for the business community to consider contributing to the Kansas Chamber PAC as we push to support free market, pro-business legislators for office.

The Kansas Chamber released its data-heavy [2026 Competitiveness Blue Book](#), featuring data points on a variety of topics and trends, which you can find on our website. Of note, Kansas ranks as the top regulatory climate in the nation, thanks to the great work of the Kansas Legislature. Our UI tax structure has moved into the top 5 according to the Tax Foundation. But we have several opportunities for improvement. Some of these will take many hours of research, input and buy-in from interested parties to craft a solution for the long-term viability and competitiveness of our state.

The Chamber takes this task seriously and is committed to continuing our successful advocacy efforts in Topeka. We continue to seek your input and feedback on issues impacting your business - so please get engaged with our legislative agenda task groups later this summer if you have not already.

On behalf of our entire team, thank you for your support of the Kansas Chamber. Please contact us if you have any questions, comments or concerns. This is your organization, and we are proud to represent you.

Sincerely,

Eric Stafford
Kansas Chamber
President & CEO

TAXATION 📝

OUR POSITION

The Kansas Chamber supports policies which lower taxes, allowing businesses the crucial financial strength to grow, develop products, invest in employees, and increase profits. A strong business climate creates a strong state economy, generates jobs, and provides for investments in communities.

THE CHALLENGE

Although the legislature's focus this past biennium on tax policy has been property tax relief, it has been difficult for the House and the Senate to come to agreement on a solution. Meanwhile, Kansas has the highest income tax rate in the region as state spending grows. Real property tax relief will remain difficult until Kansas addresses the root issue: more than 4,000 local taxing authorities and one of the nation's largest public-sector workforces.

OUR VICTORIES

- ▶ Passed Senate **Bill 300**, modifying the single factor apportionment statutes dealing with alcohol manufacturers and decoupling from the foreign income tax changes in the Big Beautiful Bill.
 - ▶ Parameters for alcohol manufacturers exceeding \$5 million in property and \$2 million in payroll will be in place for Kansas based alcohol manufactures to qualify for single factor apportionment.
 - ▶ If those thresholds are met, the manufacturer would qualify for single factor apportionment.
 - ▶ The bill eliminates the Global Intangible Low Tax Income (GILTI) provisions from Kansas statute.
 - ▶ This change aligns with federal net-CFC-tested income (NCTI) provisions and prevents Kansas from taxing foreign income.
- ▶ Passed **House Bill 2464** extending Aviation and Angel Investor Tax Credits for five years.
 - ▶ Aviation Tax Credit provides employers with non-refundable tax credit for tuition or program-specific reimbursements paid to a full-time qualified aviation employee.
 - ▶ Tuition reimbursement credits remain capped at 50% through the employee's fourth year.
 - ▶ Provides non-refundable tax credit for up to 10% of compensation paid to qualified employees in each of the first five years of employment, not to exceed \$15,000 per year.
 - ▶ Continues nonrefundable credit for taxpayers who become qualified employees of aviation or aerospace companies.
 - ▶ The Angel Investor Tax Credit was extended until 2031, which has proved to be a successful program for start-up firms and entrepreneurs.
 - ▶ Investors receive a 50% tax credit for direct investments in qualified companies.
 - ▶ The program was amended to allow 25% of the total amount of tax credits to be utilized for Kansas qualified businesses in counties with 50,000 or less in population.
 - ▶ If there are not enough applicants to meet those standards the reserved 25% of the total amount of tax credits remaining will be eligible for any qualified business in Kansas.

HEALTH CARE +

OUR POSITION

The Kansas Chamber supports meaningful health care reform aimed at lowering the overall cost of health care, so it is more affordable for employers.

THE CHALLENGE

Access to quality health care continues to be an issue across the state, especially in rural communities. Kansas law contains numerous sections which serve to control access, limiting options for consumers. The Chamber must pursue policies that increase access and lower costs through private market solutions, not growth in government programs.

OUR VICTORIES

- ▶ Passed **House Bill 2533** enacts the interstate compacts for Occupational Therapist, Respiratory Therapist, Estheticians, and Athletic Trainers.
 - ▶ Occupational Licensing Compacts are U.S. Department of War initiatives for states to pass and implement to streamline the licensing process for military spouses moving across state lines.
 - ▶ If a state where a licensed individual has passed one's respected occupational licensing compact the individual can opt into the compact to receive a license in the new state where the compact has passed.
 - ▶ The licensing requirements and the continuing education hours do not change in Kansas for these occupations.
- ▶ Passed **House Bill 2223** modifies the scope of practice act for optometrists.
 - ▶ Modifications to the scope of practice for optometrists will allow optometrists to perform minor procedures that have been taught in optometry school for years.
 - ▶ With workforce shortages of optometrists this bill will allow optometrists to come to Kansas to perform the exact methods they learn in optometry school and increase access to optometry care for Kansans.



"Policy and regulation decisions made in Topeka and Washington, DC can greatly impact the Kansas business community. But we don't have time to track every piece of legislation being considered. Thanks to the Kansas Chamber, I know the voice of business leaders will be heard and government decision makers will understand the impact of their choices."

KARMA MASON
iSi Environmental | Kansas Chamber Board Immediate Past Chair



LEGAL REFORM ⚖️

OUR POSITION

The Kansas Chamber supports efforts to improve the legal climate in Kansas by reducing incentives for litigation that disproportionately awards plaintiffs.

THE CHALLENGE

The Kansas legal climate has eroded through judicial activism—such as the removal of non-economic damage caps—which has expanded liability risks for businesses. The term deemed as “social inflation” relating to large sum or nuclear verdict awards from litigation cases against businesses continue to increase the cost of everyday living for Kansans. Kansas must provide a business-friendly tort climate in order to grow.

OUR VICTORIES

- ▶ Passed **Senate Bill 398** modifies the expert testimony statute to reflect Federal rule changes.
 - ▶ Rule of Evidence 702, adopted in Kansas in 2014 and commonly referred to as the Daubert Standard, was updated to reflect Federal rule changes.
 - ▶ The bill was amended to make modifications to Rule 701, to ensure the statute for the rule of evidence remains clear and concise.
- ▶ Legislature successfully overrode Governor Kelly's veto of **Senate Bill 462**, which prohibits public nuisance claims and deals with criminal profiteering.
 - ▶ Certain public nuisance claims will now require a special injury for certain public nuisance actions.
 - ▶ Additionally, an accrual period will be established for the statute of limitations in certain public nuisance actions.
 - ▶ The provisions of criminal profiteering come from SB 463.
 - ▶ These provisions prohibit persons participating in, or attempting to engage in wrongful conduct from bringing action for negligence or collecting damages for negligent conduct related to such wrongful conduct.
- ▶ Legislature successfully overrode Governor Kelly's veto of **House Bill 2593**, requiring a political subdivision to hold an open meeting to discuss contingency fee contracts for legal services and approval by the Attorney General for such contracts.
 - ▶ Otherwise known as Municipal Litigation, this bill prohibits cities and counties from filing or signing onto class action lawsuits without the approval of the Attorney General.
 - ▶ Cases where Kansas counties have previously joined class action lawsuits dealt with fraudulent recycling, opioid manufacturers, and e-cigarette manufacturers.

REGULATORY AFFAIRS

OUR POSITION

The Kansas Chamber supports a regulatory climate that promotes a healthy business climate and instills regulatory certainty.

THE CHALLENGE

Kansas has made great strides in recent years improving the regulatory climate, but there remain a variety of industries still impacted by red tape and bureaucratic processes which slow down investment and innovation.

OUR VICTORIES

- ▶ Passed **Senate Bill 335** requires public construction contracts to include a mutual waiver of consequential damages.
 - ▶ Establishes mutual waiving of liability for consequential damages on public construction projects to remain competitive and equally fair to private construction projects contracts.
- ▶ Passed **Senate Bill 418**, the Buy-Right-Housing Act.
 - ▶ Establishes by-right approval for housing projects that meet approved zoning and land-use requirements adopted by local governments to expedite construction project timelines to avoid unnecessary delays in the approval process.
 - ▶ Cuts red tape and establishes minimum lot size requirements for single-family homes.
 - ▶ As Kansas is no outlier to the housing shortage, Senate Bill 418 reduces timeline delays and costs for developers to build.
- ▶ Passed **House Bill 2700**, Digital Consumer Protection Act, dealing with Right-to-Repair Digital Electronics.
 - ▶ This bill is narrowly tailored to allow companies who manufacture digital electronics to share the repair guidelines and instructional material for complex digital electronics at other locations.
 - ▶ This is to ensure the warranty on the product is not only protected but that the consumer electronic device is repaired to the exact specification.



“Being able to rely on the Kansas Chamber’s advocacy efforts has been extremely important for our business. But personally, being able to engage and network with so many intelligent business leaders has strengthened my own leadership abilities. My professional growth has allowed our business to reach new heights of success!”

NICK STRECKER
CEO & Co-Founder | INA Alert, Inc.



“We know our investment in the Kansas Chamber is worth every penny. As a world-class business advocacy organization in Kansas, we have confidence in the Chamber’s reputation as a tireless negotiator on behalf of its members. Year after year the Chamber delivers strategic policy victories and regulatory reforms that support a pro-growth business climate.”

SAM SACKETT
Senior Manager, Government Relations & Community Relations | Boeing

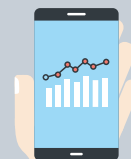


SUCCESSFULLY DEFEATED

- ▶ **SENATE BILL 372** – Requiring age verification for applications.
 - ▶ Defeated contents of SB 372 in Conference Committee Report of House Bill 2422, sending the Conference Committee Report back to Committee in the House after passing the Senate on a vote of 34 to 6.
 - ▶ Defeated contents of SB 372 in Conference Committee Report of Senate Bill 157 with the Agree to Disagree motion failing on a tie vote in the House.
- ▶ **HOUSE BILL 2736** – New regulations for non-DSH hospitals.
- ▶ **SENATE BILL 522** – Preventing Employers from establishing any “medical interventions” policies such as drug tests, vaccinations, etc.
- ▶ **SENATE BILL 436** – Establishing prevailing wage for cities and counties on construction only projects.
- ▶ **A BUDGET PROVISIO** – Extended benefits for employees deemed temporarily laid off that would have stressed the unemployment insurance trust fund.

THE KANSAS CHAMBER APP

Stay up to date with the Kansas Legislature through the new Kansas Chamber app. The Chamber app gives you direct access to legislative calendars, journals, district maps and live stream audio from the House and Senate floor – all on your phone. Scan the corresponding QR code to download our app on your iOS or Android device today.



KansasChamber.org/Legislative-App

HISTORIC VICTORIES

2025

- ▶ Passed law lowering Personal Income Taxes and Corporate Income Taxes to 4% through growth of excess revenues.
- ▶ Passed the establishment of the Office of Early Childhood and updating childcare regulations.
- ▶ Passed disclosure requirements for Third Party Litigation Funding agreements.

2024

- ▶ Passed comprehensive workers' compensation reform successfully negotiated between the business and labor communities.
- ▶ Passed unemployment insurance reform, saving Kansas businesses \$97 million annually starting in 2025.
- ▶ Passed the REINS Act strengthening regulatory oversight of state agencies by the Legislature.
- ▶ Passed legislation waiving occupational licensing fees for military spouses.

2023

- ▶ Passed the Registered Apprenticeship Tax Credit.
- ▶ Passed protections against abusive litigation under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

2022

- ▶ Changed sales tax regulations for retailers and enacted COVID-19 retail storefront property tax relief.
- ▶ Passed follow up to 2021's comprehensive unemployment insurance reform.
- ▶ Passed law allowing Advanced Practice Registered Nurses to practice & prescribe without agreement signed by a physician.

2020/2021

- ▶ Passed comprehensive tax legislation that removed several federal corporate provisions from Kansas tax law, reestablished the small business expensing deduction, and aligned the NOL standard with the federal indefinites carryforward on losses.

2019

- ▶ Passed law to allow Kansas corporations and insurance companies to employ physicians to provide care to their employees, dependents or enrollees.
- ▶ Removed restrictions on small and medium sized businesses that prohibited them from joining more affordable Association Healthcare Plans (AHPs).

2018

- ▶ Established stronger guidelines for government agencies to follow when conducting economic impact statements on the cost to Kansas businesses when adopting rules and regulations.

2017

- ▶ Opposed efforts to subject custom computer software, towing services, non-residential custodial cleaning, and other services to sales tax.
- ▶ Protected against changes to PEAK and HPIP economic development programs.

OTHER NOTABLE VICTORIES

- | | |
|--|---|
| 2015: Passed Unemployment Insurance reform. | 2011: Passed expensing of capital investments. Kansas first state in nation allowing this. |
| 2015: Led efforts to compromise with the wind coalition for the repeal of the renewable energy mandate. | 2009: Passed Promoting Employment Across Kansas Act (PEAK). |
| 2013: Passed legislation prohibiting local units of government from requiring paid leave and paid sick leave. | 2007: Phased out the franchise tax in three years. |
| 2011: Led coalition to overhaul work comp system for first time in nearly 20 years. | 2006: Repealed the business machinery & equipment property tax. |
| | 2005: Phased out estate tax in five years. |

OUR TEAM



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PATRICK BARNES
VP of Investor Relations



AMY BILLQUIST
VP of Communications & Events



EMILY CORBY
VP of Operations



CHRISTIE KRIEGSHAUSER
VP of Political Affairs



TIFFANY HALL
Executive Director,
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JESSALYN HOLLENBECK
Director of Communications



ELIZABETH MULLIN
Operations Administrator



WILLIAM WILK
Sr. Director of Government Affairs

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534 S Kansas Ave, Ste 1400 • Topeka, KS 66603
(785) 357-6321 • president@kansaschamber.org

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