



MEMORANDUM

To: Interested Parties

From: John J. Federico, JD
Stephen P. Duerst, JD

Date: January 20, 2024

Re: Weekly Report – Week of January 15, 2024

Please see our Weekly Report on Kansas Legislative activities:

A SPECIAL NOTE ON BILL TRACKERS

Bills are introduced in the Kansas Legislature daily. We update your Bill Tracker every day. Please ensure you monitor the Bill Tracker to be kept apprised of what legislation has been introduced impacting your organization.

If you need to find specific language of a bill, type the number in the box under “Bill number:” on the right-hand side of [this](#) webpage. Once you find the bill listed, click that specific bill. You will find the PDF logo under the “Documents” label - click the logo...this will lead you to the text of the bill.

If there are bills that you would like *removed* from or *added* to your bill tracker, please contact Liz Sosa (Liz@FedericoDuerst.com).

As always, our office is more than happy to send you specific language as well.

VERY BUSY WEEK OF BILL HEARINGS NEXT WEEK

After a few delays due to snowfall and brutally cold temperatures, lawmakers returned to Topeka following the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday and hunkered down for a week of primarily informational briefings in committee, and a major vote on taxes in the chambers.

A significant number of bills have been introduced and several hearings have been set for next week. ***Please ensure you view your Bill Tracker and the schedule below for information on what will be worked on beginning Monday.***

TAXES DOMINATE FIRST WEEK OF SESSION

The first piece of legislation of the 2024 Session has reached the Governor’s Desk. [HB2284](#) is a tax bundle created in the Taxation Conference Committee. The bill includes the following provisions impacting income, sales, and property tax:

- Replace the existing individual income tax brackets with a single rate of 5.25 percent for income in excess of \$12,300 for married individuals filing joint returns and \$6,150 for all other individuals.
- Exempt Social Security income from the individual income tax.
- Provide for an annual standard deduction increase of \$50, with an annual increase based on a cost-of-living adjustment.
- Provide for an increase to the personal exemption amount and future personal exemption amount increases by a cost-of-living adjustment.
- Reduce privilege tax rates for banks to align with previously enacted corporate tax reductions as a result of the APEX legislation.
- Accelerate the elimination of state sales and compensating use tax on food and food ingredients to April 1, 2024, currently set to go in effect January 1, 2025.
- Increase the amount of the appraised value of residential property exempt from the statewide uniform 20 mill school finance levy to \$100,000.

The anticipated fiscal note is below:

	(Dollars in Millions)			
	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
Individual Income Tax Single Bracket 5.25%	\$	-\$ (91.5)	\$ (306.0)	\$ (309.1)
Social Security Exemption		- (152.1)	(120.7)	(124.4)
Standard Deduction Indexing		- (15.3)	(19.5)	(25.0)
Personal Exemption Increase and Indexing		- (10.0)	(15.5)	(22.9)
Privilege Tax Rate Reductions		- (6.8)	(7.4)	(7.5)
Food Sales Tax to 0.0% Acceleration	(20.8)	(72.6)	-	-
<i>Subtotal – State General Fund</i>	<i>\$ (20.8)</i>	<i>\$ (348.3)</i>	<i>\$ (469.1)</i>	<i>\$ (488.9)</i>
Food Sales Tax to 0.0% Acceleration	\$ (4.2)	\$ (15.0)	\$ -	\$ -
<i>Subtotal – State Highway Fund</i>	<i>\$ (4.2)</i>	<i>\$ (15.0)</i>	<i>\$ -</i>	<i>\$ -</i>
Res. Property Tax Exempt. to \$100,000	\$	-\$ (84.8)	\$ (89.5)	\$ (94.3)
<i>Subtotal – State School District Finance Fund</i>	<i>\$</i>	<i>-\$ (84.8)</i>	<i>\$ (89.5)</i>	<i>\$ (94.3)</i>
Total All Funds	\$	-\$ (25.0)	\$ (558.6)	\$ (583.2)

The Conference Committee Report on HB2284 was advanced to the Senate Floor where it passed on a vote of [25-11](#) (4 absent) on January 17. Thereafter, it advanced to the House Floor on January 18, where it passed on a vote of [81-37](#). The legislation is now on the desk of Governor Laura Kelly, where the Governor has 10 days to either sign the bill into law, or veto the legislation. Shortly after the House passed the Legislation, Governor Kelly made comments on a local radio interview that she intends to veto the bill, advocating instead for her [plan](#).

Although a veto override is expected to take place, the votes likely will not be there. No news yet on what a future plan might look like, but lawmakers are already taking a look at assembling a new package to present.

LAWMAKERS BRIEFED ON STATE'S NEW PANASONIC FACTORY

Representatives from Panasonic met with members of the [House Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications Committee](#) on Tuesday to update them on the progress of the state's new 3.1 million square foot battery factory being constructed in De Soto.

The factory, which has been the topic of much discussion over the last year, was lured to Kansas after lawmakers passed, and the Governor signed, the [APEX \(Attracting Powerful Economic Expansion Act\) bill](#) in 2022. The program provides tax incentives to companies who agree to invest at least \$1 billion in Kansas within a five-year period. Incentives include items such as investment tax credits, retention of employee withholding tax, real property tax exemption and sales tax exemptions on construction materials used to build the facility. Panasonic and Wichita-based [Integra Technologies](#) are the two companies that have taken advantage of the program so far.

The program has not been implemented without controversy. Many lawmakers, from the bill's inception to its implementation, continue to believe it provides too many incentives to businesses. Rural lawmakers also point to the fact it may never benefit their region.

There have been growing concerns that the Panasonic, in particular, would result in potential high energy usage that could impact ratepayers across the state. Panasonic noted that they are committed to continuing to work with the local energy provider and invest in infrastructure as needed to ensure the project's success.

The factory is expected to start production in the first half of 2025.

INTERIM SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS REPORT RELEASED

Legislative staff briefed lawmakers in the House Welfare Reform Committee on Thursday about findings and [recommendations from the 2024 Special Committee on Homelessness](#). The committee, which met over the summer, was directed to find the following:

- The needs of the public, businesses, law enforcement and other first responders, and state and local government regarding needs, concerns, and ideas to address homelessness;
- The effectiveness of past and current homelessness-focused services in the state, including the discussion of promising practices; and
- Other states' and local reform efforts to address homelessness, including effective and ineffective measures undertaken.

While no formal recommendations were made, committee discussion focused on testimony provided by various stakeholders addressing homelessness issues, including applicable court cases and legal restrictions; the individuals, living situations, demographics, and causes of homelessness; the effect of homelessness on various communities; and lessons learned from efforts to address homelessness in other cities and states.

Lawmakers continued the dialogue on Thursday and listed a number of considerations the committee may want to look into this Session, including mental health services, drug and alcohol treatment, affordable housing and shelters and law enforcement and safety consideration. They also heard from conferees on homelessness solutions being executed in California and Texas.

Homelessness will likely continue to be a big issue this Session, as lawmakers search for a solution to a problem that has expanded across the state.

KANSAS STATE HIT WITH MAJOR CYBERSECURITY BREACH

Officials at Kansas State University are scrambling this week as a cyber attack has hit its systems.

The University [announced](#) that the breach has disrupted certain network systems, including VPN, email and video services.

The University said that third-party forensic experts had been called in to examine the extent of the problem. There has been no word yet on whether student or personnel information was breached.

No major ransomware groups have yet taken responsibility for the attack.

KANCARE OVERSIGHT TO MEET ON FEBRUARY 2

The published agenda for the February 2 [Bethell Joint Committee on Home & Community Based Services and KanCare Oversight](#) can be found [here](#).

The Chairperson has decided to accept only written testimony during the agenda section pertaining to testimony on KanCare from individuals, providers, and organizations at the February 2 meeting. No verbal public testimony will occur at this meeting.

The deadline to submit the electronic copy of your written testimony is 5:00 p.m. on January 25, with two paper copies to be delivered to our office in Room 68-W of the Statehouse by 5:00 p.m. on January 26.

OTHER PRESS RELEASES & UPDATES

- [Kansas Just One Signature Away From Historic Tax Relief As Inflation-Busting Bipartisan, Compromise Tax Plan Heads to Governor](#)
- [Governor Kelly’s Medicaid Expansion Proposal Introduced in Both Chambers of State Legislature](#)
- [Governor Kelly Announces Nearly \\$5M for Digital Skills Training](#)

WEEKLY SCHEDULE: JANUARY 22 - 26

Schedule subject to change. Daily Session calendars may be found [here](#).

Time	Committee	Room	Notes
JANUARY 22, 2024			
8:30 PM	S Agriculture	144-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Update on Kansas Agriculture
8:30 AM	S Public Health & Welfare	142-S	N/A
8:30 AM	S Transportation	546-S	N/A
9:00 AM	H Appropriations	112-N	N/A
9:00 AM	H Fed & State	346-S	N/A
9:00 AM	H Financial Inst. & Pensions	582-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2103- Eliminating 15% Alt. Investment Limit
9:00 AM	H Leg. Mod. Sub #1	218-N	Briefing: Committee Reports
9:00 AM	H Leg. Mod. Sub #2	212-N	Briefing: E-Forms & IT Capabilities
9:00 AM	H Local Government	281-N	Bill Intros; Briefing: Kansas League of Municipalities, Association of Counties

9:30 AM	S Tax	548-S	N/A
9:30 AM	S Financial Inst.	546-S	N/A
9:30 AM	S Transparency & Ethics	142-S	Bill Intros; Budget Hearing: Board of Cosmetology, Gov. Ethics Commission, Real Estate Commission, Abstracters Board of Examiners
10:30 AM	S Commerce	546-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: World Cup 2026
10:30 AM	S Fed & State	144-S	Bill Intros; Possible Action
10:30 AM	S Judiciary	346-S	N/A
10:30 AM	S Ways & Means	548-S	N/A
11:00 AM	HOUSE FLOOR		
12:00 PM	Joint Building Construction	159-S	Budget Hearing: School for Deaf/Blind, DCF, Adjutant General, KBI
1:30 PM	S Education	144-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Community College by the Numbers; Non-Profit Higher Ed
1:30 PM	S Utilities	548-S	N/A
1:30 PM	H Ag. Budget	118-N	Bill Intros; Briefing: Budget 101
1:30 PM	H. Child Welfare	152-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: DCF Foster Care, Review of Child Welfare Oversight Committee
1:30 PM	H Commerce	346-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: 2026 World Cup; Briefing: Overland Park Chamber Workforce Update
1:30 PM	H Corrections & JJ	546-S	N/A
1:30 PM	H Education	218-N	N/A
1:30 PM	H Health & Human Ser.	112-N	Briefing: Mental Health Intervention Team Program (MHIT)
1:30 PM	H Higher Ed. Budget	281-N	N/A
1:30 PM	H Transportation	582-N	N/A
2:30 PM	SENATE FLOOR		
3:15 PM	SWAM Higher Ed	548-S	Budget Hearing: State Historical Society, State Library
3:30 PM	H Agriculture	112-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2541- State Conservation Fund
3:30 PM	H Gen Gov Budget	281-N	Bill Intros; Budget Hearing: KDOR, KS Lottery, Racing & Gaming Commission, State Gaming Agency
3:30 PM	H Judiciary	582-N	N/A
3:30 PM	H K-12 Budget	546-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2485- Revising School Funding based on Current Enrollment
3:30 PM	H Social Services Budget	152-S	Bill Intros; Budget Hearing: Board of Nursing, Board of Pharmacy, Board of Mortuary Arts
3:30 PM	H Tax	346-S	N/A
3:30 PM	H Transportation Budget	118-N	Budget Action: Sentencing Commission, Peace Officers Commission
3:30 PM	H Insurance	218-N	N/A

JANUARY 23, 2024

8:30 PM	S Agriculture	144-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Kansas Water Authority; Hearing: SB331- Changing Definition of Hazardous Waste Generation
8:30 AM	S Public Health & Welfare	142-S	Bill Intros; Budget Hearing: Commission on Veteran Affairs
8:30 AM	S Transportation	546-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB142- Caution when Passing Stationary Vehicles with Hazards
9:00 AM	H Appropriations	112-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB155- Appropriations for FY23-26; Briefing: Build Kansas Program, KDOT Plan; Budget Report: Board of Cosmetology
9:00 AM	H Fed & State	346-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: HCR5020- Amending State Constitution for Right to Bear Arms
9:00 AM	H Utilities & Telecom	582-N	Bill Intros; Briefing: Rural Broadband- Pioneer
9:00 AM	H Veterans	281-N	N/A
9:00 AM	H Water	152-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Kansas Water Authority, Groundwater Management
9:30 AM	S Tax	548-S	Bill Intros; Hearing (Cont.) HB2036- Property Tax Exemption for Disabled Veterans; Possible Action
9:30 AM	S Financial Inst. & Insurance	546-S	Hearings: SB338- Group Funded Liability Reporting, SB339- Updating Risk-Based Capital, SB340- Remove Auto Club from Insurance Law
9:30 AM	S Local Government	142-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: SB162- Riley County Area Nuisance Abatement Act
10:30 AM	S Commerce	546-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: APEX Report, 2023 Apprenticeship Annual Report
10:30 AM	S Fed & State	144-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2446- Prohibiting Cities and Counties from Regulating Plastic and Other Containers
10:30 AM	S Judiciary	346-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB318- Removing requirement for municipal courts to collect fingerprints for municipal violations
10:30 AM	S Ways & Means	548-S	Bill Intros; Budget Hearings: Peace Officers, Sentencing Commission
11:00 AM	HOUSE FLOOR		
12:00 PM	Building Construction	159-S	Budget Hearing: Department of Commerce, KDOL, KDOA, KDHE, Corrections, Post-Secondary Systemwide
1:30 PM	S Education	144-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Higher Ed by the Numbers
1:30 PM	S Utilities	548-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Rural Broadband- Pioneer, Broadband Office Update
1:30 PM	H Ag. Budget	118-N	Bill Intros; Budget Hearing & Action: Board of Accountancy, Board of Veterinary Examiners
1:30 PM	Joint Commerce/Welfare	346-S	Briefing on Welfare, Fraud, and Workforce

1:30 PM	H Corrections & JJ	546-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Presentation on Reintegration
1:30 PM	H Education	218-N	Bill Intros; Briefing: Audit on Education
1:30 PM	H Health & Human Ser.	112-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2484- Social Work Licensure Compact
1:30 PM	H Higher Ed. Budget	281-N	Budget Hearing: Board of Healing Arts, Behavioral Science Board
1:30 PM	H Transportation	582-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2499- Prohibiting the use of a phone while driving in a school or construction zone or under 18 years of age
2:30 PM	SENATE FLOOR		
3:30 PM	H Agriculture	112-N	Bill Intros; Briefing: Role of Kansas Water Authority
3:30 PM	H Gen. Gov Budget	281-N	Bill Intros; Budget Hearings: Dental Board, KDOL, Optometry
3:30 PM	H Judiciary	582-N	Bill Intros; Briefing: Kansas Highway Patrol, KBI
3:30 PM	H K-12 Budget	546-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Dyslexia Initiatives in Kansas
3:30 PM	H Social Services Budget	152-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Valley Hope Foundation
3:30 PM	H Tax	346-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB40- NOL Carryforward & SSI Homestead Revision
3:30 PM	H Transportation Budget	118-N	Budget Hearing: BIDS; Budget Action: Adjutant General's Department
3:30 PM	H Elections	218-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2504- Requiring Election Audits to review Paper Ballots
JANUARY 24, 2024			
8:30 AM	S Agriculture	144-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB347- Confirmation of Wildlife & Parks Appointments
8:30 AM	S Public Health & Welfare	142-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Guardianship Program
8:30 AM	S Transportation	546-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB335- Increasing penalties for unlawful pass of emergency vehicle
9:00 AM	H. Approps	112-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2468- Amending Disaster Response
9:00 AM	H Fed & State	346-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2208- Transfer of Property to Shawnee Tribe
9:00 AM	H Financial Inst. & Pensions	582-N	Bill Intros; Briefing: Kansas Insurance Department; Action: HB2103- Eliminating Required 15% Alt. Investment Limit for KPERS
9:00 AM	H Leg. Mod. Sub #1	218-N	Briefing: Committee Reports
9:00 AM	H Leg. Mod. Sub #2	212-N	Briefing: E-Forms & IT Capabilities
9:00 AM	H Local Government	281-N	Bill Intros
9:30 AM	S Tax	548-S	Bill Intros; Hearings: HB2229- Sales Tax Deduction for motor vehicles, HB2254- Agritorusim Land Definition; Possible Action
9:30 AM	S Financial Inst. & Insurance	546-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB345- Enacting the Commercial Financing Disclosure Act

9:30 AM	S Transparency & Ethics	142-S	Bill Intros; Budget Hearings: Optometry, Dental Board, Real Estate Appraisal, Technical Professionals
10:30 AM	S Fed & State	144-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Audit on Economic Development Programs; Hearing: SB343- Prohibiting mailing of advance ballots without request
10:30 AM	S Judiciary	346-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Specialty Court Update
10:30 AM	S Ways & Means	548-S	Bill Intros; Budget Hearing: KDOL, OITS; Briefing: Abandoned Wells; Briefing: Nursing Staff Shortages, Medicaid Unwinding
11:00 AM	HOUSE FLOOR		
12:00 PM	SWAM- Corrections	548-S	Budget Hearing: EMS Board, State Fire Marshal, Department of Corrections
12:00 PM	Joint Commerce	346-S	Briefing: Unemployment Statute Review
1:30 PM	Joint Education	346-S	Teacher of the Year
1:30 PM	S Utilities	548-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Economic Development- Eergy
1:30 PM	H Ag. Budget	118-N	Budget Hearing: KCC, CURB
1:30 PM	H Child Welfare	152-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Division of the Child Advocate Report; Hearing: HB2536- SOUL Family Legal Permanency Option
1:30 PM	H Corrections & JJ	546-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Kansas Sentencing Commission
1:30 PM	H Health & Human Ser.	112-N	N/A
1:30 PM	H Higher Ed. Budget	281-N	Budget Action: Board of Healing Arts
1:30 PM	H Transportation	582-N	N/A
2:30 PM	SENATE FLOOR		
3:30 PM	H Agriculture	112-N	Bill Intros; Briefing; Federal Well Plugging Programs; Action: Permitting Hemp to be used for certain Ag Purposes
3:30 PM	H General Gov. Budget	281-N	Bill Intros; Budget Action: KDOR, KS Lottery, Racing & Gaming
3:30 PM	H Judiciary	582-N	Bill Intros; Briefing: LEO Presentations; Hearing: HB2549- Termination of Parental Rights in Adoption Process
3:30 PM	H K-12 Budget	546-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2489- Revising Purchase of USD Buildings used as Attendance Centers
3:30 PM	H Social Services Budget	152-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Clubhouse Model Program
3:30 PM	H Tax	346-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB55- Expanding Property Tax Exemption for Strother Airport
3:30 PM	H Transportation Budget	118-N	Budget Hearing: Board of Technical Professions
3:30 PM	H Insurance	218-N	N/A
JANUARY 25, 2024			

8:30 AM	S Agriculture	144-S	TBA
8:30 AM	S Public Health & Welfare	142-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Youth Suicide Prevention
8:30 AM	S Transportation	546-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: KDOT- Airport Facility Needs
9:00 AM	H Appropriations	112-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2495- Appropriations for FY24-25, HB2491- Abolishing LEO training Center Fund
9:00 AM	H Fed & State	346-S	N/A
9:00 AM	H Water	152-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Groundwater Management
9:00 AM	H Utilities & Telecom	582-N	Bill Intros
9:00 AM	H Veterans	281-N	TBA
9:30 AM	S Tax	548-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB264- Tax Credit for Household/dependent care expenses; Possible Action
9:30 AM	S Financial Inst. & Insurance	546-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: KPERS
9:30 AM	S Local Government	142-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Overview of LAVTRF
10:30 AM	S Commerce	546-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Kansas Chamber Survey
10:30 AM	S Fed & State	144-S	Bill Intros; Budget Hearings; Kansas Lottery, Racing and Gaming Commission
10:30 AM	S Judiciary	346-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Department of Corrections
10:30 AM	SWAM- Legislative	548-S	Budget Hearing & Action: Office of Governor, LCC, KLRD, Legislature, LPA, Revisor
11:00 AM	HOUSE FLOOR		
12:00 PM	JC Building Construction	159-S	Budget Hearing: Judicial Branch, KHP, Wildlife & Parks, KDADS, State Fair
1:30 PM	S Education	144-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Audit on cost of K-12, Audit on At-Risk Funding
1:30 PM	S Utilities	548-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Competitiveness of Electric Rates, Utility Consumer Issues
1:30 PM	H Ag. Budget	118-N	Bill Intros; Budget Action: KCC, CURB
1:30 PM	H Welfare Reform	152-S	TBA
1:30 PM	H Commerce	346-S	TBA
1:30 PM	H Corrections & JJ	546-S	Bill Intros; Hearings: HB2487- Immunity from certain drug charges with medical assistance, HB2490- Limiting Juvenile case length to 90 days
1:30 PM	H Education	218-N	N/A
1:30 PM	H Health & Human Ser.	112-N	Hearing: HB2453- Enacting the Dentist Compact for Interstate Practice
1:30 PM	H Higher Ed. Budget	281-N	Budget Action: State Library, Historical Society; Budget Hearing: KWU, KSU ESARP (Water)
1:30 PM	H Transportation	582-N	N/A
2:30 PM	SENATE FLOOR		
3:30 PM	H Agriculture	112-N	N/A

3:30 PM	H Judiciary	582-N	N/A
3:30 PM	H K-12 Budget	546-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2514- Revising Open Enrollment for preference of Kansas students
3:30 PM	H Social Services Budget	152-S	N/A
3:30 PM	H Tax	346-S	N/A
3:30 PM	H Transportation Budget	118-N	Briefing: KDOT
3:30 PM	H Elections	218-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2512- Advance ballots due 7PM, HB2516- Revising Nomination Petition Process
JANUARY 26, 2024			
9:30 AM	SWAM- Public Safety	546-S	Budget Hearings: EMS Board, State Fire Marshal, Department of Corrections
10:30 AM	S Ways & Means	548-S	Budget Hearings: BIDS, Judicial Council, State Library