



KANSAS STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES 2019

The Civic Council of Greater Kansas City, a membership organization composed of chief executive officers of the largest corporations and professional partnerships in the Kansas City metropolitan area, is focused on growing the regional economy through the strategies identified by [KC Rising](#). These include fostering a business environment that supports key traded sectors, promoting innovation and entrepreneurship, and educating a high-quality workforce.

The growth of the Kansas City region is good for the economy of Kansas. The five Kansas counties within the Kansas City region account for 35 percent of all private sector jobs in the state and 38 percent of the state's GDP, yet only 30 percent of Kansas's population. Job growth in these five counties between 2010 and 2017 was 16.7 percent, outpacing nation's job growth of 15.5 percent.

The Civic Council seeks the Kansas Legislature's support on the following priorities:

Strong Business Environment and Traded Sectors

- ***Incentives*** We support economic development incentives with a strong business case that grow the number of quality, good-paying jobs in the Kansas City region. The Civic Council opposes the use of economic development incentives to relocate existing jobs within the region. We support targeted incentives for high-growth, high-wage, innovation-rich industries, such as the life sciences, engineering and design, and national security industries, as well as continued support for the Animal Health Corridor.
- ***Transportation*** We support the development and funding of a smart, multi-modal, 21st Century transportation system that is aligned with the Kansas City region's transit and transportation needs. We support regional and multi-state planning that further positions the Kansas City region as a logistics and transportation hub.
- ***Role of government*** We support a balance of fair and equitable tax policy and the funding of critical basic services, infrastructure and amenities that attract talented individuals and the businesses that hire them.
- ***Non-discrimination*** We support the rights of individuals to live, work and engage in commerce in the state without regard to their nationality, race, gender or sexual orientation/identification.
- ***Good governance*** We believe ethical, transparent and accessible elected leadership, as well as a non-partisan, merit-selected state judiciary, promote a predictable business environment that encourages investment.

