



THE CIVIC COUNCIL OF GREATER KANSAS CITY

2018 MISSOURI LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

The Civic Council of Greater Kansas City, a membership organization 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 strengthening key traded sectors, supporting innovation and entrepreneurship, and developing a high quality workforce to fill high demand jobs.

From the end of the 2007 recession through 2016, Missouri experienced 9.2 percent growth in private sector jobs while the growth nationally occurred at 13.5 percent. *If Missouri had performed at the national average, the state would have gained an additional 91,000 private jobs.*

The Greater Kansas City region, in contrast, realized 12 percent job growth during the same time frame, which was close to the national average. The region's nine counties contain 20 percent of Missouri's private sector jobs and captured over 25 percent of all private jobs created in the state.

To continue its significant and positive impact on the state's economy the KC region requires the implementation of strategies to boost the state's job growth, attract and retain talented workers, and encourage innovators and entrepreneurs to locate and grow their enterprises in Missouri. *The region's civic and business leaders strongly oppose the use of incentives and other economic development tools to relocate jobs within the region.*

The Civic Council values the Legislature's role in achieving economic growth through fair and equitable tax policy that produces the revenues to fund critical basic services and provide amenities to attract talented individuals and the businesses that hire them. The civic and business community also expects the state's elected officials to provide transparent and ethical leadership.

The Civic Council seeks the Missouri General Assembly's support on the following priorities:

Traded Sectors

Incentives that result in net new jobs in the KC region, especially for high-growth and innovation-oriented industries, including the life sciences and engineering and design; continued support for the Animal Health Corridor.

Funding for a smart, multi-modal 21st Century transportation system that is aligned with the KC metro's transit and transportation strategies/priorities, supports regional planning and development, and positions the region as a logistics and transportation center of excellence; funding for the replacement of the Buck O'Neil Bridge.

Support for the Kansas City, Missouri, economic development consensus agenda.

Advocacy by the State's elected leaders on the importance of exports and the value of Federal trade alliances and treaties, such as NAFTA, in ensuring key sectors of the region's economy are competitive in the global marketplace.

Human Capital

Support for a high quality and well-funded early and primary through secondary education system that prepares students with soft skills and professional and technical expertise for careers and college; continuation of programs such as A+, Access Missouri, Parents as Teachers, and the Missouri Child Care Assistance Program.

Support for the University of Missouri to remain an AAU research institution; funding of core budgets for undergraduate and graduate programs at UMKC and the Metropolitan Community College System.

A strong social safety net for children and disadvantaged populations; freedom for local jurisdictions to make decisions that meet their residents' and employers' needs; a non-partisan, non-elected judiciary; accessibility to government at all levels; and, protection for 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.

Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Develop and grow new and innovation-rich enterprises through the creation of angel investor tax credits; funding for proof of concept grants, incubators and accelerators; and, strong infrastructure that supports university research, development and commercialization.

Missouri Technology Corporation funding; incentives to increase science and technology companies' technical capacity, particularly in entrepreneurship; simplification of the personal property tax abatement process for technology companies.

Public policy that values and protects scientific inquiry, diversity and creativity.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Jewel D. Scott, Executive Director or James R. Moody, Civic Council Lobbyist
(816) 983-2300 | jscott@kcciviccouncil.org (573) 690-4161 | jmoodyjc@gmail.com

The mission of the Civic Council: To accelerate growth in the region's prosperity and quality of life by strategically deploying the personal and corporate resources, influence and expertise of the region's business and civic leaders.

THE CIVIC COUNCIL OF GREATER KANSAS CITY
ONE KANSAS CITY PLACE
1200 MAIN STREET, SUITE 230 KANSAS CITY, MO 64105
(816) 221-2263 TEL | (816) 221-2209 FAX