



Community Bankers Association of Kansas

Kansas Legislative and Policy Report

2024 Session Preview

January 4, 2024

Overview

The 2024 Session begins Monday, January 8th. We expect an efficient, but contentious Session, with several significant issues up for debate, from Medicaid Expansion to a flat tax to property tax relief. Republican and Democrat proposals for those few issues listed vary widely, not to mention on a host of other policy and budget items.

Our weekly reports will commence next week and continue throughout the 2024 Session.

2024 Session Preview

Session Schedule

- As a reminder, the 2024 Session calendar and list of deadlines has been posted to the Legislature’s website and can be found here:
http://kslegislature.org/li/documents/2024_session_deadlines.pdf
- The midpoint of Session, or “Turnaround” falls on February 23rd.
- First Adjournment is set for Friday, April 5th, with Veto Session set to begin April 29th.

Session Overview

- There are several things to keep in mind as the 2024 Session gets underway. Namely, all 165 House and Senate members will be up for re-election in 2024. Because legislators cannot campaign or raise funds during Session, there is always some degree of expediency expected in an election year. We anticipate things will quickly move this Session, with (hopefully) an expedited Veto Session.
- An election year also dictates, to some degree, what issues are debated and the degree to which certain issues are debated. While social issues such as transgender sports, gender affirming care, and parents’ rights have largely been front and center the last few years, we will see how much attention legislative leadership plans to give social issues.
- In short, tax relief in its many forms (property tax relief, income tax relief, likely in the form of a flat tax, etc.) will be, by and large, the driving force this Session.

- The state’s historically high budget surplus will mean lots of competing for how to spend the funds. We anticipate several issues will have hefty price tags, such as property and income tax relief and potential revisions to KPERS.
- Two issues in particular—Medicaid Expansion and medical marijuana—are in play, but it is unclear how, and if, they will get to the Governor’s desk. Both issues have passed the House in prior years.

What to Expect in the First Week

- As always, the first week unfolds with several things of note happening:
 - The first day, Monday, is largely ceremonial, with no committee meetings taking place until the following day.
 - The Governor will give her State of the State address midweek, most likely Wednesday.
 - The Governor’s Budget will be released Thursday, highlighting the Governor’s priorities for 2024.
 - Most committee meetings during the first week will consist of industry and agency updates, though the Senate Tax Committee has already scheduled its first bill hearing in the first week.

CBA Updates

Anticipated Issues in 2024

- CBA will provide pertinent industry updates to both Financial Institutions committees the first week of the Session.
- As we have reported previously, the three largest issues we are anticipating in 2024:
 - Legislation to clean up and update the UCCC and KMBA;
 - Final passage of legislation (i.e., SB 300) to decrease the privilege tax rate;
 - Potential ESG follow-up. It is unlikely there will be further significant debate on ESG, as legislative leadership has made it clear they do not wish to take up the topic again. However, there have been a few rumblings of industry-specific proposals that may open up the issue again.

Upcoming Activities

The legislative schedule of hearings is updated regularly throughout the week and can be found in the House and Senate calendars on the Legislature’s website at:

http://kslegislature.org/li/b2023_24/chamber/calendars/

Additionally, all hearings are now available online live and archived by the end of each day. You can find those hearings on the Legislative YouTube at:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_0NO-Pb96CFABvxDwXAq8A

Wednesday, January 10th. 9:00 AM.

House Financial Institutions.

- Industry updates from CBA, KBA, credit unions.

Thursday, January 11th. 9:30 AM.

Senate Financial Institutions.

- Industry updates from CBA, KBA, credit unions.

Wrap Up

Let us know if you have any questions.

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