

HOUSE BILL No. 2611

By Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development

Requested by Requested by Rachel Willis on behalf of Department of Commerce

1-25

1 AN ACT concerning economic development; relating to tourism;
2 increasing the membership of the council on travel and tourism
3 appointed by the governor and updating the house committee
4 assignment required for house members from the committee on
5 agriculture and natural resources to the committee on commerce, labor
6 and economic development; reducing the required allocation of funds
7 from the department of commerce's matching grant program for the
8 promotion of tourism to public and nonprofit entities and removing the
9 restriction on the percentage of such funds granted to a single entity;
10 amending K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 32-1410 and 32-1420 and repealing the
11 existing sections.
12

13 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

14 Section 1. K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 32-1410 is hereby amended to read as
15 follows: 32-1410. (a) (1) There is hereby established the council on travel
16 and tourism. The council shall consist of ~~17~~ 20 voting members as follows:

17 (A) The chairperson of the ~~standing~~ senate committee on commerce
18 of the senate, or a member of the senate appointed by the president of the
19 senate;

20 (B) the vice chairperson of the ~~standing~~ senate committee on
21 commerce of the senate, or a member of the senate appointed by the
22 president of the senate;

23 (C) the ranking minority member of the ~~standing~~ senate committee
24 on commerce of the senate, or a member of the senate appointed by the
25 minority leader of the senate;

26 (D) the chairperson of the ~~standing~~ house of representatives
27 committee on ~~agriculture and natural resources of the house of~~
28 ~~representatives~~ commerce, labor and economic development, or its
29 successor committee, or a member of the house of representatives
30 appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;

31 (E) the vice chairperson of the ~~standing~~ house of representatives
32 committee on ~~agriculture and natural resources of the house of~~
33 ~~representatives~~ commerce, labor and economic development, or its
34 successor committee, or a member of the house of representatives
35 appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;

1 (F) the ranking minority member of the ~~standing~~ *house of*
2 *representatives* committee on ~~agriculture and natural resources of the~~
3 ~~house of representatives~~ *commerce, labor and economic development*, or
4 its successor committee, or a member of the house of representatives
5 appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives; and

6 (G) ~~eleven~~*fourteen* members appointed by the governor. Of the ~~11~~ *14*
7 members appointed by the governor, ~~one~~ *six* shall be appointed to
8 *represent the general public and eight shall be appointed to represent the*
9 *organizations specified in this subparagraph, respectively. The*
10 *appointment of a representative of an organization shall be made from a*
11 *list of three nominations made submitted by the organization as follows:*

12 (i) ~~The~~ *travel industry association of Kansas, one shall be an*
13 *individual engaged in the lodging industry and appointed from a list of*
14 *three nominations made by;*

15 (ii) ~~the~~ *Kansas restaurant and hospitality association, one shall be an*
16 *individual engaged in the restaurant industry and appointed from a list of*
17 *three nominations made by the Kansas restaurant and hospitality*
18 *association, one shall be appointed from a list of three nominations made*
19 *by for two representatives, one whose nominees shall be individuals*
20 *engaged in the lodging industry and the second whose nominees shall be*
21 *individuals engaged in the restaurant industry;*

22 (iii) ~~the~~ *petroleum marketers and convenience store association of*
23 *Kansas, one shall be appointed from a list of three nominations by;*

24 (iv) ~~the~~ *Kansas sport hunting association and six shall be appointed to*
25 *represent the general public;*

26 (v) *the national independent venue association, whose nominees shall*
27 *be Kansas residents;*

28 (vi) *the Kansas museums association; and*

29 (vii) *the Kansas sampler foundation.*

30 (2) In addition to the voting members of the council, four members of
31 the council shall serve ex officio: The secretary of commerce, the secretary
32 of transportation, the secretary of wildlife and parks and the executive
33 director of the state historical society. Each ex officio member of the
34 council may designate an officer or employee of the state agency of the ex
35 officio member to serve on the council in place of the ex officio member.
36 The ex officio members of the council, or their designees, shall be
37 nonvoting members of the council and shall provide information and
38 advice to the council.

39 (b) ~~Legislator~~ *members shall be appointed for terms coinciding with*
40 *the terms for which such members are elected. Of the 11 members first*
41 *appointed by the governor, six shall be appointed for terms of three years*
42 *and five shall be appointed for terms of two years as determined by the*
43 *governor. Thereafter, All members appointed by the governor shall be*

1 appointed for terms of three years. All members appointed to fill vacancies
2 in the membership of the council and all members appointed to succeed
3 members appointed to membership on the council shall be appointed in
4 like manner as that provided for the original appointment of the member
5 succeeded.

6 (c) On July 1 of each year the council shall elect a chairperson and
7 ~~vice-chairperson~~ *vice chairperson* from among its members. The council
8 shall meet at least four times each year at the call of the chairperson of the
9 council. ~~Nine~~ *Eleven* voting members of the council shall constitute a
10 quorum.

11 (d) Members of the council attending meetings of such council, or
12 attending a subcommittee meeting thereof authorized by such council,
13 shall be paid amounts for mileage as provided in K.S.A. 75-3223(c), and
14 amendments thereto, or a lesser amount as determined by the secretary of
15 commerce. Amounts paid under this subsection to ex officio members of
16 the council, or their designees, shall be from appropriations to the state
17 agencies of which such members are officers or employees upon warrants
18 of the director of accounts and reports issued pursuant to vouchers
19 approved by the chief administrative officers of such agencies. Amounts
20 paid under this subsection to voting members of the council shall be from
21 moneys available for the payment of such amounts upon warrants of the
22 director of accounts and reports issued pursuant to vouchers approved by
23 the chairperson of the council.

24 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 32-1420 is hereby amended to read as
25 follows: 32-1420. (a) There is hereby established a state matching grant
26 program to provide assistance in the promotion of tourism and
27 development of quality tourist attractions within the state of Kansas.
28 Grants awarded under this program shall be limited to not more than 40%
29 of the cost of any proposed project. Applicants shall not utilize any state
30 moneys to meet the matching requirements under the provisions of this
31 program. Both public and private entities shall be eligible to apply for a
32 grant under the provisions of this act. Not less than ~~75%~~ *50%* of all
33 moneys granted under this program shall be allocated to public entities or
34 entities exempt from taxation under the provisions of 501(c)(3) of the
35 federal internal revenue code of 1986, and amendments thereto. ~~No more~~
36 ~~than 20% of moneys granted to public or nonprofit entities shall be granted~~
37 ~~to any single such entity. Furthermore, no more than 20% of moneys~~
38 ~~granted to private entities shall be granted to any single such entity.~~ The
39 secretary of commerce shall administer the provisions of this act and the
40 secretary may adopt rules and regulations establishing criteria for
41 qualification for a matching grant and such other matters deemed
42 necessary by the secretary for the administration of this act.

43 (b) For the purpose of K.S.A. 32-1420 through 32-1422, and

1 amendments thereto, "tourist attraction" means a site that is of significant
2 interest to tourists as a historic, cultural, scientific, educational,
3 recreational or architecturally unique site, or as a site of natural scenic
4 beauty or an area naturally suited for outdoor recreation, however, under
5 no circumstances shall "tourist attraction" mean a race track facility, as
6 defined in K.S.A. 74-8802, and amendments thereto, or any casino or
7 other establishment that operates class three games, as defined in 25
8 U.S.C. § 2703, as in effect on July 1, 1991.

9 Sec. 3. K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 32-1410 and 32-1420 are hereby repealed.

10 Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
11 publication in the statute book.