1	RESOLUTION NO. 9366
2 3 4 5	A RESOLUTION introduced by City Manager Stephen Wade, relating to the City of Topeka's legislative agenda for the 2023 legislative session.
5 6	NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE
7	CITY OF TOPEKA, KANSAS, that the following is hereby adopted as the City of Topeka's
8	legislative agenda for the 2023 legislative session:
9	Home Rule. Consistent with the Home Rule Amendment of the Kansas Constitution
10	approved by voters in 1960, our local Governing Body, as the body closest to the people,
11	is in the best position to make decisions for our community, particularly in regards to local
12	tax and revenue decisions. The City of Topeka strongly supports legislation that respects
13	our constitutional home rule authority.
14	Tax/Spending Lid.
15	(1) Taxing and Spending Powers. Local spending and taxing decisions are best left
16	to the local officials representing the citizens that elected them.
17	(2) Business Competition. We strongly oppose any state-imposed limits on the taxing
18	and spending authority of cities and legislation that seek to exempt/waive property
19	taxes for some businesses at the expense of the tax base as a whole on the basis
20	of competition.
21	(3) Sales Tax. As the majority of commerce occurs inside city limits, cities should be
22	able to impose voter-approved local sales taxes without interference from the
23	county.
24	(4) Unfunded Mandates. If the state or federal governments seek to promote particular
25	policy objectives, such mandates should be accompanied by an appropriate level
26	of funding.

27 Public Safety.

- (1) <u>Common Consumption</u>. The city's governing body is tasked with providing public
 safety for its citizens. As such, it is in the best position to determine if a public
 street or roadway that lies within a common consumption area under K.S.A. 412659 needs to be closed to motorized traffic. We support legislation to turn this
 decision over to local governing bodies.
- 33 (2) <u>Abandoned Housing</u>. We support legislation that would give cities additional
 34 tools to deal with vacant and abandoned housing.
- 35 (3) <u>Mental Health</u>. We support allocating additional resources for mental health
 36 programs. Funds should be allocated for community mental health centers and
 37 additional bed space for patients with mental health issues.
- (4) <u>Driver's License</u>. We support the elimination of mandatory jail time for driving on
 a suspended license as sensible step to increasing the number of citizens
 achieving the goal of correcting the violations which lead to the suspended license
 and reinstating their licenses to a valid status.

42 **Community Development**

- (1) <u>Docking Building</u>. We support the renovation of the Docking State Office
 Building and the City of Topeka seeks to work with the State to preserve items
 of historic value, to the extent possible.
- 46 (2) <u>Kansas Department of Health & Environment (KDHE) Lab</u>. We support locating
 47 of the KDHE Lab within City limits.
- 48 (3) <u>Menninger Property</u>. We support efforts to secure state funding for projects to
 49 redevelop Menninger Hill.

50	(4) Broadband. The State should support efforts that invest in broadband as an
51	essential utility for the success of the community.
52	(5) ARPA/IIJA. The City should seek opportunities for program and project funding
53	through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and the Federal Infrastructure
54	Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA).
55	League of Kansas Municipalities. We support the League of Kansas Municipalities
56	2023 Statement of Municipal Policy to the extent the Policy is consistent with the City's
57	priorities and agenda, including opposing legislation limiting the City's Home Rule
58	authority.
59	ADOPTED and APPROVED by the Governing Body on November 1, 2022.
60 61 62 63 64	CITY OF TOPEKA, KANSAS
65	Michael Padilla, Mayor
66 67 68 69 70	ATTEST:
71	Brenda Younger, City Clerk