

25 (3) Sales Tax. As the majority of commerce occurs inside city limits, cities should be
26 able to impose voter-approved local sales taxes without interference from the
27 county.

28 (4) Unfunded Mandates. If the state or federal governments seek to promote
29 particular policy objectives, such mandates should be accompanied by an
30 appropriate level of funding.

31 **Public Welfare.**

32 (1) Abandoned Housing. We support legislation that would give cities additional
33 tools to deal with vacant and abandoned housing.

34 (2) Mental Health. We support allocating additional resources for mental health
35 programs, including establishment of a state mental health facility in Topeka to
36 provide additional bed space for patients with mental health issues.

37 (3) Medicaid Expansion. Kansas is one of only 11 states that has not expanded
38 Medicaid eligibility which is supported by 7 out of 10 Kansas voters. We urge the
39 Legislature to do so in order to provide health care to individuals who cannot afford
40 to access these services.

41 (4) Homelessness. We support allocating a portion of the budget surplus to help
42 cities address homelessness and its underlying causes which include a lack of
43 affordable housing and social services.

44 (5) Minimum Wage. We support passage of 2023 S.B. 140 which would allow cities
45 to utilize their Home Rule power to require employers to pay wages higher than
46 the minimum wage.

47 **Community Development**

48 (1) Menninger Property. We support efforts to secure state funding for projects to
49 redevelop Menninger Hill.

50 (2) Broadband. The State should support efforts that invest in broadband as an
51 essential utility for the success of the community.

52 **League of Kansas Municipalities**. We support the League of Kansas
53 Municipalities 2024 Statement of Municipal Policy to the extent the Policy is consistent
54 with the City's priorities and agenda, including opposing legislation limiting the City's
55 Home Rule authority.

56 ADOPTED and APPROVED by the Governing Body on November 21, 2023.

57 CITY OF TOPEKA, KANSAS

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Michael A. Padilla, Mayor

63 ATTEST:

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Brenda Younger, City Clerk