

Labor-Management Council

of Greater Kansas City

January 31, 2012

Dear Members of the Committee,

Today you are scheduled to hear testimony on HB 2501 regarding the definition of personal property tax. The Labor-Management Council supports efforts to clarify that the Legislature's intent is to exempt commercial and industrial machinery and equipment or personal property from property tax.

As a nonprofit association with many member organizations based in or active in Kansas, we are particularly concerned with economic growth and retention of good jobs for Kansans. We supported the exemption when it was enacted and are very concerned with efforts to undermine the legislature's intent and ultimately good jobs.

Govs. Brownback and Sebelius both have worked to structure a tax system that meets state needs while allowing businesses to be competitive. This exemption is a key part of that strategy. While we understand that local governments are strapped for resources, looking for sources that decrease the competitiveness of Kansas business is counterproductive. Your consideration of this bill should focus on maintaining the exemption and reversing attempts to avoid it.

Thank you for your service to our state. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Bob Jacobi

Bob Jacobi

Executive Director

Officers

Co-Chairs

Terry Akins

Business Manager

I.B.E.W. Local 124

Mike Sanders

County Executive

Jackson County

Vice Co-Chair

Kevin Istas

Senior Vice President

Walton Construction Co.

Secretary

David Kendrick

Business Manager

Greater Kansas City

Building & Construction

Trades Council

Treasurer

Don Greenwell

President

Builders' Association

Executive Director

Bob Jacobi, Jr.

Executive Committee

Donna Birks

President

AFL-CIO Tri-County

Pat Dujakovich

President

Greater Kansas City AFL-CIO

Scott Hoisington

Deputy Operations Director

Turner Construction Co.

John Phillips

Partner

Husch Blackwell

Immediate Past Co-Chairs

Jim Delaney

Vice President

Turner Construction Co.

Kevin Sexton

Business Manager

Plasterers' & Cement

Masons Local 518

1100 Rockhurst Road • Kansas City, MO 64110

Phone: (816) 501-4565; Fax (816) 501-3198 • Email: bob.jacobi@rockhurst.edu

Blog: <http://labormanagementke.typepad.com>

Below is a list of the Board of Directors and Member Organizations of the Labor-Management Council:

Board of Directors

Sam Alpert, Executive Director, Construction Users Council
Jack Bainbridge, Business Manager, Heavy Construction Laborers Local 663
Tim Bell, Laborers Local 1290
Rosana Privitera Biondo, President, Mark One Electric Co., Inc.
Sherwin Carroll, President, S.E.I.U. Local 1-Missouri Division
Jed Cope, President & Business Manager, Teamsters Local 541
Marcos DeLeon, Vice President, Health Policy and Government Relations, Truman Medical Centers
Mike Kotubey, President, MMC Contractors
Dave Lovetere, DST Realty
Hon. Judy Morgan, Legislative Chair/PastPresident, KC Federation of Teachers/Missouri House of Representatives
Gary O'Bannon, Human Resources Director, City of Kansas City, MO 64106
Jim Prothe, Construction Manager, Kansas City Power & Light
Chuck Tarpley, Business Manager, Plumbers Local 8

Consultants

Michael Fitzgerald, Attorney, Michael D. Firtzgerald P.C.
The Rev. Frank Murphy, S.J., Professor Emeritus, Rockhurst University
James Daley, Dean, Helzberg School of Management Rockhurst University

Member Organizations

A. Zahner Co.	International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 124	Operative Plasterers & Cement Masons Local 518
Argosy Casino	International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 412	Painters District Council 3
Arnold Newbold Winter & Jackson, P.C.*	J.E. Dunn Construction Co.	Pipefitters Local 533
Black & Veatch*	Jackson County	Plumbers Local 8
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas City*	City of Kansas City, Mo.	Polsinelli Shughart*
Boilermakers Local 83	Kansas City Ballet	Rockhurst University*
Bricklayers Local 15	Kansas City Federation of Teachers 691	Roofers Local 20
Brotherhood Bank & Trust*	Kansas City Insulation Contractors	Service Employees International Union Local 1-Missouri
Builders' Association	Kansas City Kansas Area Chamber*	Sheet Metal Workers Local 2
Capital Electric Construction	Kansas City Kansas Board of Public Utilities	SMACNA-KC
Carpenters District Council	Kansas City Power & Light Co.	Sprinkler Fitters Local 314
Chamber of Commerce of Greater Kansas City*	Kansas City Royals	Strategic Workplace Solutions*
Cigna Healthcare	The Kansas City Southern Railway	Taylor Kelly LLC
Construction Users Council*	Kansas Gas Service	Teamsters Local 541
DST Realty*	Kansas City Area Transportation Authority	Teamsters Local 838
Financial Counselors*	Kansas City Area Development Council*	Teamsters Local 955
Fire Fighters Local 42	Kiewit Power Constructors Co.	Tri-Council Labor Council
Full Employment Council*	The Konrath Group*	AFL-CIO of Eastern Kansas
General Motors	Laborers Local 1290	Truman Medical Center
George J. Shaw Construction Co.	Laborers-Employers Coop. & Education Trust	Turner Construction Co.
Greater Kansas City AFL-CIO	Mark One Electric Co., Inc.	Scout Investment Advisors
Greater Kansas City Building & Construction Trades Council	Marshall & Ilsley Trust Co.*	United Auto Workers Local 31
Greater Kansas City United Way*	McCown Gordon Construction Co.	United Food & Commercial Workers Local 2
Heat & Frost Insulators Local 27	Mechanical Contractors Association	United Healthcare
Heavy Construction Laborers Local 663.	Michael D. Fitzgerald P.C.	United Steelworkers Dist. 11
Hostess Brands	Missouri AFL-CIO	Walton Construction Co.
Husch Blackwell	Missouri Gas Energy	Working Families Friend*
City of Independence	MMC Contractors	The Weitz Co.
Independence School District	National Electrical Contractors Association	
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers		

*Associate Member