



Responsible Policy. Real Prosperity.

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KCEG calls for fiscal responsibility, debuts budget guide for Tax Day



Topeka, KS -- This Tax Day, the Kansas Center for Economic Growth calls on policymakers across the state to embrace fiscal responsibility and commonsense investments in our shared prosperity.

Lawmakers showed good sense in refusing to override Gov. Laura Kelly's veto of Senate Bill 22, the tax conformity bill that would have slashed state revenue by a half-billion dollars over three years. The governor made the right decision, as did legislators in allowing that call to stand. We can't afford to go backward to the failed policies and declining revenues of Gov. Sam Brownback's tax "experiment."

But there's even more for us do. As a blog entry published on KCEG's website today shows, Kansans still live in and work in an upside-down tax system that too often favors those with high incomes over those earning less.

"The lowest-income Kansans pay 4 percent more of their family income in taxes (11.4 percent) than the top 1 percent of Kansas earners (7.4 percent)," writes Director of Policy and Research Emily Fetsch. "As a result, too much wealth is in too few hands, creating ever-growing barriers to opportunity for Kansas families."

Fetsch identifies numerous tax credits that could be reinstated to help a wider array of Kansans. They include the homestead property tax credit for renters, a refundable version of the food sales tax credit, and an increased child and dependent care credit.

[The full blog entry, complete with interactive graphic, can be found here.](#)

The Kansas Center for Economic Growth has one more resource in store this Tax Day. We're publishing our "Budget Guide," which explains the state's budget process in detail. Complete with capsule histories, illustrations, a timeline, glossary, and resources, the guide will serve as an evolving resource for advocates and officials alike.

"We're excited to unveil the guide," Fetsch said. "Understanding the budget process is critical to understanding policies affecting education, health care, and infrastructure, and how we support them in years to come."

[The complete budget guide can be found here.](#) Hard copies will be available soon.

KCEG plans to monitor the upcoming veto session of the Legislature carefully. If more ill-considered tax proposals come before the Senate or House, we stand ready to defend the progress that Kansas has made over the past two years. Failed policy should not return.

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