Session of 2026

HOUSE BILL No. 2793

By Committee on Appropriations

Requested by Representative Tarwater

3-6

AN ACT enacting the Kansas sports facilities authority act to establish a sports authority to provide for the construction, financing and management of certain sports facilities and sports facility infrastructure and create venues for professional sports and other events.

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

Section 1. (a) Sections 1 through 8, and amendment thereto, shall be known and may be cited as the Kansas sports facilities authority act.

(b) The purpose of the act is to provide for the construction, financing, management and long-term use of sports facilities and sports facility infrastructure as venues for professional sports and a broad range of other civic, community, athletic, educational, cultural and commercial activities. The legislature finds that the expenditure of public money for this purpose is necessary, serves a public purpose and promotes the general welfare, and that property acquired by the Kansas sports facilities authority for the construction of sports facilities and sports facilities infrastructure is acquired for a public use and serves a public purpose. The legislature further finds that any provision in a lease or use agreement with a professional sports team that requires such team to play substantially all of its home games in a publicly funded sports facility for the duration of the lease or use agreement serves a unique public purpose for which enforcement is essential through the remedies of specific performance and injunctive relief.

Sec. 2. As used in this act:

(a) "Act" means the Kansas sports facilities authority act.

(b) "Authority" means the Kansas sports facilities authority established under section 3, and amendments thereto.

(c) "Professional sports" means the national football league.

(d) "Professional sports team" means an organization that is a franchised member of the national football league engaged in the business of professional American football.

(e) "Sports facility" means, as designed, constructed, financed or managed pursuant to this act, a stadium, arena, field or other similar structure, including a practice facility for a professional sports team or a professional sports team headquarters building, and any enclosed or open-

Proposed Committee Amendment
House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development
March 12, 2026
Prepared by Office of Revisor of Statutes

This amendment prohibits the representative of the professional sports team from serving as the Chairperson of the authority.

This proposed amendment has not been proofed and is subject to nonsubstantive edits.

(3) one member appointed by the senate majority leader who shall serve until December 31 of the third year following appointment. Thereafter, each member appointed by the senate majority leader shall serve a four-year term, beginning on January 1. Each such member shall serve until a successor is appointed and takes office;

(4) one member appointed by the senate minority leader who shall serve until December 31 of the third year following appointment. Thereafter, each member appointed by the senate minority leader shall serve a four-year term, beginning on January 1. Each such member shall serve until a successor is appointed and takes office;

(5) one member appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives who shall serve until December 31 of the third year following appointment. Thereafter, each member appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives shall serve a four-year term, beginning on January 1. Each such member shall serve until a successor is appointed and takes office;

(6) one member appointed by the house of representatives majority leader who shall serve until December 31 of the third year following appointment. Thereafter, each member appointed by the house of representatives majority leader shall serve a four-year term, beginning on January 1. Each such member shall serve until a successor is appointed and takes office;

(7) one member appointed by the house of representatives minority leader who shall serve until December 31 of the third year following appointment. Thereafter, each member appointed by the house of representatives minority leader shall serve a four-year term, beginning on January 1. Each such member shall serve until a successor is appointed and takes office;

(8) the secretary of commerce or acting secretary of commerce who shall serve at the pleasure of the governor; ~~and~~

(9) a representative of the professional sports team that plays its games in the sports facility owned by the authority appointed by the professional sports team who shall serve until December 31 of the fourth year following appointment. Thereafter, each member appointed by the professional sports team shall serve a four-year term, beginning on January 1. Each such member appointed by the professional sports team shall serve until a successor is appointed and takes office.

(c) The initial members of the authority shall be appointed not later than August 31, 2026.

(d) (1) The mayor of any city in which a sports facility of the authority is located shall be entitled to nonvoting, ex officio membership in the authority if:

(A) Such city passes an ordinance electing to participate in a STAR

bond project as defined in K.S.A. 12-17,162(aa)(2), and amendments thereto;

(B) such participation is not withdrawn, repealed, terminated or rendered ineffective; and

(C) such city's pledge of applicable local sales, use or transient guest tax revenue is not conditioned in a manner that:

(i) Limits or restricts the secretary's authority to establish or modify a STAR bond project district as defined in K.S.A. 12-17,162(cc)(2), and amendments thereto, for purposes of pledging state revenues;

(ii) provides for termination or reduction of such local pledge based on actions taken by the secretary with respect to the establishment, modification or scope of a STAR bond project district as defined in K.S.A. 12-17,162(cc)(2), and amendments thereto, or the pledge of state revenues; or

(iii) conflicts with the terms and conditions set forth in the STAR bond agreement dated December 22, 2025, and executed by the Kansas city chiefs football club, inc. and the state of Kansas.

(2) Such ex officio membership shall be expressly conditioned upon the continued satisfaction of the requirements set forth in subparagraphs (1)(A), (B) and (C) above.

(e) Members of the authority may be compensated as provided by K.S.A. 75-3223, and amendments thereto, including a paid per diem and mileage reimbursement.

(f) The chairperson of the authority shall be elected by a majority of the voting members of the authority for a four-year term, except that the representative of the professional sports team that plays its games in the sports facility owned by the authority shall not be eligible to serve as chairperson. The chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the authority, if present, and perform all other assigned duties and functions. The authority may appoint from among its voting members a vice chairperson to act for the chairperson during the temporary absence or disability of the chairperson and any other officers the authority determines are necessary or convenient.

(g) Each member of the authority shall serve at the pleasure of the entity or holder of the office authorized to appoint such member.

(h) The authority shall adopt bylaws to establish rules of procedure, the powers and duties of its officers and other matters relating to the governance of the authority and the exercise of its powers.

(i) The authority shall engage a third-party independent auditor to audit the books and accounts of the authority annually. The authority shall engage a different independent auditor every three years to conduct such audit.

(j) The authority may appoint an executive director to serve as the chief executive officer of the authority. Such executive director shall serve at the pleasure of the authority and shall receive compensation as determined by the authority and approved by the state finance council