

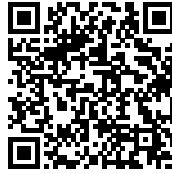


# Tom Kessler

House of Representatives District HD-096

Republican

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4560 S. Washington Wichita, KS 67216



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This legislator voted constitutionally on **67%** of the votes shown below.

★ Pro-liberty      ✗ Anti-liberty      ? Did not Vote      **Vote**

**1. HB2001 "STAR Bonds" for Professional Sports** (passed 84 to 38 on 6/18/2024). Authorizes STAR (Sales Tax and Revenue) bonds to finance major professional sports complexes. **Yes** ✗

**2. HB2436 Criminal Penalties for Coercing Abortions** (passed 85 to 40 on 4/29/2024). Creates the crime of coercion to obtain an abortion. **Yes** ★

**3. SB233 Ban on Sex Mutilation of Children** (motion to override veto failed 82 to 43 on 4/29/2024). Would have banned healthcare providers from providing "gender transition" treatment to children. **Yes** ★

**4. HB2618 Prohibiting Federal Funds in Elections** (motion to override veto passed 84 to 41 on 4/29/2024). Prohibits federal moneys from being used for any election-related activities, unless appropriated or as otherwise provided by state law. **Yes** ★

**5. HR6035 States' Powers to Combat Illegal Migration** (adopted 80 to 40 on 2/7/2024). Supports Texas in its efforts to combat illegal migration by affirming state sovereignty and encouraging the Governor of Kansas to offer the services of the Kansas National Guard. **Yes** ★

**6. HB2400 Kansas "Adult Learner" Grants** (passed 116 to 6 on 3/16/2024). Establishes a grant program for "adult learners" to pursue certain fields of study and provides "workforce retention" tax credits. **Yes** ✗



## KANSAS LEGISLATIVE **SCORECARD** BASED ON THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

**Rep. Tom Kessler**

**KS Scorecard 2024**

**Lifetime Score: 67%**

**2023-2024 Regular Session Score 58%**

The Legislative Scorecard is a nationwide educational program of The John Birch Society. Its purpose is to create an informed electorate on how state legislators are voting. The Scorecard is nonpartisan; it does not promote any candidate or political party. Bills are selected for their constitutional implications and cost to the taxpayers.

**Please share this Scorecard in your district to inform people about your legislator's record on key votes.**

U.S. Constitution, Amendment I --- 11 C.F.R. §114(4)(c)(4) --- 616 F.2d 45 (2d Cir. 1980)

The following scorecard lists several key votes in the Kansas Legislature in 2024 and ranks state representatives and senators based on their fidelity to (U.S.) constitutional and limited-government principles.



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# Bill Descriptions for the Votes that Affect You

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## 1. “STAR Bonds” for Professional Sports

HB2001 authorizes STAR (Sales Tax and Revenue) bonds to finance major professional sports complexes.

Government has no business issuing bonds for professional sports. Privately owned billion-dollar professional sports teams should be expected to pay for their own facilities, which they can more than afford. “Economic development” is merely a cliché or code word used by cronies to coerce taxpayers into furnishing proliferate amounts of money to fund corporate-sponsored spending bills outside the limited purpose and scope of government. This bill is dependent upon sales tax revenue, making it an immoral, anti-constitutional act of government-imposed theft that takes from citizens the wages they have rightfully earned.

## 2. Criminal Penalties for Coercing Abortions

HB2436 creates the crime of coercion to obtain an abortion.

Justice is the overall purpose of government. The State of Kansas has a dual role of protecting the “unalienable Rights” to life and liberty while punishing anyone responsible for depriving them. Equal justice of the law requires ending the practice of abortion entirely and securing the right to life for all persons. This most fundamental and God-given right is guaranteed by the 5th and 14th Amendments of U.S. Constitution.

## 3. Ban on Sex Mutilation of Children

SB233 would have banned healthcare providers from providing “gender transition” treatment to children.

No person has a right to harm a child using the pretext of LGBTQ+ ideology. Sex mutilation against minor children violates their “unalienable” right to life and limb, as it absurdly attempts to erase their biological sex with fictional “gender identity” constructs. According to the Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, every State has a duty to defend the basic humanity of its citizens, each of whom is born distinctly male or female, and, as the Declaration of Independence affirms, created equally in the image of God.

## 4. Prohibiting Federal Funds in Elections

HB2618 prohibits federal moneys from being used for any election-related activities, unless appropriated or as otherwise provided by state law.

Executive Order 14019, signed by President Joe Biden in 2021, directs federal agencies and “approved” third-party organizations to be involved in voter registration and voter participation efforts. This scheme allows the federal government, without the approval of Congress, to interfere in state and local elections. Under Article I, Section 4, of the U.S. Constitution, the power to conduct elections rests first and foremost with the states. Kansas must exercise its constitutional authority and maintain control over its own elections.

## 5. States' Powers to Combat Illegal Migration

HR6035 supports Texas in its efforts to combat illegal migration by affirming state sovereignty and encouraging the Governor of Kansas to offer the services of the Kansas National Guard.

Persons who enter the United States illegally—which, by definition, is a crime under federal law—should not be permitted sanctuary in Texas or any other state. Article IV, Section 4, requires the federal government to protect each of the states against invasion; however, Article 1, Section 10, of the U.S. Constitution allows the states to enter into agreements if “actually invaded.” Rather than pursue blatantly anti-American policies that undermine the rule of law and erode the value of citizenship, states should exercise their sovereign powers under the 10th Amendment to stop illegal migration and provide for the public safety.

## 6. Kansas "Adult Learner" Grants

HB2400 establishes a grant program for “adult learners” to pursue certain fields of study and provides “workforce retention” tax credits.

Education is not the role of government. This bill only extends the government’s monopoly over K-12 education and beyond. Its exchange of public subsidies for curriculum and other regulatory controls effectively turns every participating “adult learner” into a postsecondary government-school student. Also, the “workforce retention” tax credits mean that “eligible” adult graduates (with little or no tax liability) are later given additional government funds. Freedom cannot be achieved by forcing other citizens to furnish their hard-earned dollars to fund all that now entails a compulsory, failing, and government-run school system.