

KANSAS PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

Budget Committee Report

KLRD Analyst: Waddell
KLRD Summary: Vol. 1, Pg. 452

DOB Analyst: Gunn
GBR Analysis: Vol. 2, Pg. 142

Executive Summary

Summary of Total Expenditures, FY 2023 – FY 2027					
	SGF	Kansas Public Disclosure Commission Fee Fund	Total	FTE Positions	
FY 2023 Actual	\$ 482,193	\$ 240,249	\$ 722,442	8.5	
FY 2024 Actual	524,032	283,049	807,081	8.5	
FY 2025 Actual	536,485	265,416	801,901	8.5	
FY 2026					
Approved, with Reappropriations	\$ 589,939	\$ 322,448	\$ 912,387	8.5	
Agency Revised Estimate	589,939	299,212	889,151	8.5	
Special Committee on the State Budget	566,727	299,212	865,939	8.5	
House Committee of the Whole	566,727	299,212	865,939	8.5	
Senate Committee of the Whole	589,939	299,212	889,151	8.5	
Legislative Approved	582,326	299,212	881,538	8.5	
Governor's Recommendation	589,939	299,212	889,151	8.5	
FY 2027					
Approved, without Reappropriations	\$ 554,784	\$ 330,353	\$ 885,137	8.5	
Agency Request	572,472	321,585	894,057	8.5	
Special Committee on the State Budget	572,472	321,585	894,057	8.5	
House Committee of the Whole	572,472	321,585	894,057	8.5	
Senate Committee of the Whole	572,472	321,585	894,057	8.5	
Legislative Approved	569,917	321,585	891,502	8.5	
Governor's Recommendation	572,472	321,585	894,057	8.5	

The Kansas Public Disclosure Commission is responsible for administering, interpreting, and enforcing the Campaign Finance Act and laws relating to conflicts of interest, financial disclosure, and the regulation of lobbying. (Note: 2025 HB 2206 changed the agency's name from the Governmental Ethics Commission to the Kansas Public Disclosure Commission.) These laws establish the public's right to information about the financial affairs of Kansas' public officials, lobbyists, and candidates for state and local office. The Commission also renders advisory opinions and can adopt rules and regulations.

The agency is financed entirely through state general funds and Kansas Public Disclosure Fee Fund, formerly the Governmental Ethics Commission Fee Fund. The agency's fee fund collects revenue from fees paid by political action committees, lobbyists, and candidates. The amount of revenue collected varies each year depending on the election year cycle and the number of elections that are held.

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FY 2026

Summary of Legislative Recommendations, FY 2026					
	SGF	Kansas Public Disclosure Commission Fee Fund	Total	FTE Positions	
Approved, with Reappropriations	\$ 589,939	\$ 322,448	\$ 912,387	8.5	
Agency Revised Estimate	589,939	299,212	889,151	8.5	
Special Committee on the State Budget (SBC)					
Change from Agency Revised Estimate	\$ (23,212)	\$ -	\$ (23,212)	-	
TOTAL – Special Committee	\$ 566,727	\$ 299,212	\$ 865,939	8.5	
House Committees					
General Government Budget	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	
Appropriations	-	-	-	-	
Committee of the Whole	-	-	-	-	
Subtotal – House Change from SBC	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	
TOTAL – Current House Position	\$ 566,727	\$ 299,212	\$ 865,939	8.5	
Senate Committees					
Local Government, Transparency and Ethics	\$ 23,212	\$ -	\$ 23,212	-	
Ways and Means	-	-	-	-	
Committee of the Whole	-	-	-	-	
Subtotal – Senate Change from SBC	\$ 23,212	\$ -	\$ 23,212	-	
TOTAL – Current Senate Position	\$ 589,939	\$ 299,212	\$ 889,151	8.5	
Legislative Approved					
Conference Committee	\$ 23,212	\$ -	\$ 23,212	-	
Governor's Vetoes	-	-	-	-	
Veto Overrides	-	-	-	-	
Certifications	(7,613)	-	(7,613)	-	
Subtotal – Approved Change from SBC	\$ 15,599	\$ -	\$ 15,599	-	
GRAND TOTAL – Final Approved	\$ 582,326	\$ 299,212	\$ 881,538	8.5	

Agency

The **agency** submits a revised estimate of \$889,151 in expenditures and 8.5 FTE positions in FY 2026, including \$589,939 SGF and \$299,212 from the Kansas Public Disclosure Fee Fund. This represents an all funds decrease of \$23,589, or 2.6 percent, below the amount approved by the 2025 Legislature.

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The revised estimate includes \$23,212 SGF reappropriations for the following:¹

- **Computer Equipment Purchase:** \$1,830 in unspent funds for renting three laptops and purchasing three docking stations. Additional peripherals may be replaced as needed.
- **Office Equipment Purchases:** Allocate between \$250 and \$625 in unspent funds to replace the office manager's chair and adding machine (printing calculator).
- **Increased Operating Costs:** \$7,675 in unspent funds for increases in the agency's lease payments (\$3,439) and the Monumental Building Surcharge (\$4,236).
- **Professional Development (COGEL Conference):** Funds to allow the Executive Director and General Counsel to attend the annual Council on Governmental Ethics Laws (COGEL) conference. The estimated cost per attendee is approximately \$800 for registration and \$2,600 for airfare, hotel, meals, and related travel expenses.
- **Newspaper Subscriptions:** Approximately \$450 for subscriptions to the Kansas City Star, Wichita Eagle, and Topeka Capital-Journal to stay informed on statewide issues.
- **Remaining Funds:** Any remaining reappropriated funds will be used to offset fluctuations in operating expenditures

The agency's request includes the deletion of \$353 SGF in FY 2026 as part of a 1.5 percent lapse of SGF reappropriations.

Other changes in the revised estimate include the following:

- A \$23,236 decrease from the Kansas Public Disclosure Commission Fee Fund reflecting the incorporation of the reappropriation of \$23,565 SGF in unspent FY 2025 funds and the required 1.5 percent (\$353) lapse of those reappropriations.
- Decreases in salaries and wages primarily attributable to reduced employer contributions for health insurance (-\$18,621). The agency's revised estimate includes lower fringe benefit costs for at least one budgeted full-time position, contributing to the overall decrease.
- These decreases offset by increases in contractual services for databases access fees, postage, travel and subsistence, and new office furniture in capital outlay.

Special Committee on the State Budget

The **Special Committee** concurs with the agency's revised estimate in FY 2026, with the following adjustments:

1. Delete \$23,212 SGF to remove the reappropriations in FY 2026.

House Committees

House Committee on General Government Budget

The **House Budget Committee** concurs with the Special Committee's recommendation in FY 2026.

House Committee on Appropriations

The **House Committee** concurs with the House Budget Committee's recommendation in FY 2026.

¹ This amount includes a deletion of \$ 353 SGF to lapse 1.5 percent of unspent FY 2025 funding that otherwise would have been appropriated.

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House Committee of the Whole

The **House Committee of the Whole** concurs with the House Committee's recommendation in FY 2026.

Senate Committees

Senate Committee on Local Government, Transparency and Ethics

The **Senate Committee** concurs with the Special Committee's recommendation in FY 2026, with the following adjustment:

1. Add \$23,212 SGF to restore reappropriations in FY 2026.

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

The **Senate Committee on Ways and Means** concurs with the Senate Committee's recommendation in FY 2026.

Senate Committee of the Whole

The **Senate Committee of the Whole** concurs with the House Committee's recommendation in FY 2026.

Conference Committee

The **Conference Committee** concurs with the Special Committee's recommendation in FY 2026, with the following adjustments:

1. Add \$23,212 SGF to restore reappropriations in FY 2026.

Legislative Approved

HB 2513 authorized the following statewide adjustments which were certified following the conclusion of the 2026 Session:

1. Delete \$7,613 SGF to eliminate funding for positions which have been vacant for at least 60 calendar days in FY 2026.

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FY 2027

Summary of Legislative Recommendations, FY 2027					
	SGF	Kansas Public Disclosure Commission Fee Fund	Total	FTE Positions	
Approved, without Reappropriations	\$ 554,784	\$ 330,353	\$ 885,137	8.5	
Agency Request	572,472	321,585	894,057	8.5	
Special Committee on the State Budget (SBC)					
Change from Agency Request	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	
TOTAL – Special Committee	\$ 572,472	\$ 321,585	\$ 894,057	8.5	
House Committees					
General Government Budget	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	
Appropriations	-	-	-	-	
Committee of the Whole	-	-	-	-	
Subtotal – House Change from SBC	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	
TOTAL – Current House Position	\$ 572,472	\$ 321,585	\$ 894,057	8.5	
Senate Committees					
Local Government, Transparency and Ethics	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	
Ways and Means	-	-	-	-	
Committee of the Whole	-	-	-	-	
Subtotal – Senate Change from SBC	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	
TOTAL – Current Senate Position	\$ 572,472	\$ 321,585	\$ 894,057	8.5	
Legislative Approved					
Conference Committee	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	
Governor's Vetoes	-	-	-	-	
Veto Overrides	-	-	-	-	
Certifications	(2,555)	-	(2,555)	-	
Subtotal – Approved Change from SBC	\$ (2,555)	\$ -	\$ (2,555)	-	
GRAND TOTAL – Final Approved	\$ 569,917	\$ 321,585	\$ 891,502	8.5	

Agency

The **agency** revised estimate of \$894,057 in expenditures and 8.5 FTE positions in FY 2026, including \$572,472 SGF and \$321,585 from the Kansas Public Disclosure Fee Fund. This represents an all funds decrease of \$8,920, or 1.0 percent, below the amount approved by the 2025 Legislature.

The agency revised estimate includes \$19,023, including \$14,939 SGF and \$4,084 from the fee fund, for the 2025 Legislative Pay Plan.

Other changes in the revised estimate include:

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- A total decrease of \$16,688 for salaries and wages, including a decrease of \$82,215 SGF and an increase of \$67,880 from the fee fund. The decrease in salaries and wages is primarily attributable to reduced employer contributions to health insurance (-\$18,942), likely resulting from employee benefit elections.
- An increase of \$5,792 for contractual services, including an increase of \$86,964 SGF due to higher expenditures in fees for other services, including database access fees for Westlaw and R-Base, and Office 365 and computer rental costs. There are also increases in travel and subsistence expenditures, including out-of-state meal and lodging for the COGEL conference.

Special Committee on the State Budget

The **Special Committee** concurs with the agency request for FY 2027.

House Committees

House Committee on General Government Budget

The **House Budget Committee** concurs with the Special Committee's recommendation for FY 2027.

House Committee on Appropriations

The **House Committee** concurs with the House Budget Committee's recommendation for FY 2027.

House Committee of the Whole

The **House Committee of the Whole** concurs with the House Committee's recommendation for FY 2027.

Senate Committees

Senate Committee on Local Government, Transparency and Ethics

The **Senate Committee** concurs with the Special Committee's recommendation for FY 2027.

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

The **Senate Committee on Ways and Means** concurs with the Senate Committee's recommendation for FY 2027.

Senate Committee of the Whole

The **Senate Committee of the Whole** concurs with the House Committee's recommendation for FY 2027.

Conference Committee

The **Conference Committee** concurs with the Special Committee's recommendation for FY 2027.

Legislative Approved

HB 2513 authorized the following statewide adjustments which were certified following the conclusion of the 2026 Session:

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1. Add \$6,032, all from SGF, to implement the Executive Branch pay plan approved by the 2026 Legislature and certified by the State Finance Council for FY 2027.
2. Delete \$8,587 to lapse 1.5 percent of state operations funded from the SGF for FY 2027. This lapse does not apply to SGF-financed operating expenditures for authorized contractual services, specific projects, or an identified program or entity.