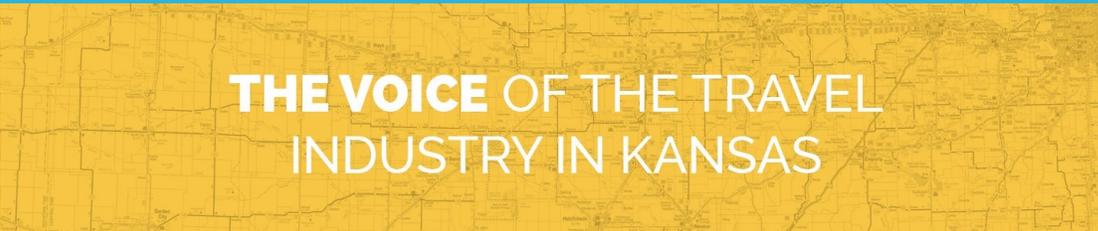




**Travel Industry
Association of Kansas**



**THE VOICE OF THE TRAVEL
INDUSTRY IN KANSAS**

May 2018

Volume 13, Issue 5

TIAK TALK

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UPDATES FROM YOUR TOURISM GUIDE



From Jan Stevens, TIAK President

At the time of this writing, we are just finishing up with our National Tourism Week activities. It has been a fun week, and the theme, “Travel—Then and Now,” was a great fit for us. I’m sure you all had some exciting things going on for the week as well.

The legislative session is over and folks are thinking about their summer vacations. Memorial Day weekend is upon us! Traditionally, that weekend is the kick-off of the summer season. For most communities, the summer months will be the time of year that they will see the majority of visitors. Occupancy at hotels will be higher and attraction visitation numbers will be at their peak.

Lastly, start making plans for the Kansas Tourism Conference this October in Junction City! It’s going to be a good one and you don’t want to miss it!

“Give me six hours to chop down a tree and I will spend the first four sharpening the axe.” —Abraham Lincoln ■

2018 KANSAS TOURISM CONFERENCE

2018 Kansas Tourism Conference registration is now open!

It's time to take care of business—and tourism! Registration for the 2018 Kansas Tourism Conference is now open on the [TIAK website](#).

The Kansas Tourism Conference is a highlight each year with inspiring speakers and networking opportunities. This year's event takes place October 22-24 in Junction City, at the Courtyard by Marriott and Convention Center.

The Kansas Tourism Conference event page has all of the information you need to plan your tourism getaway, including hotel reservation information, a dynamic agenda, auction item donation form, student scholarship donation information, sponsorship opportunities, information on our Local Products Pull, and so much more! And be sure to start thinking about your marketing award submission. We're working on some improvements to the process and hope to have it ready for your marketing genius soon!

The conference is less than six months away, so take care to register today through the [TIAK website](#). ■



Share the conference adventure with a worthy student in a Kansas hospitality/tourism program of study. It takes \$600 to send a student to the conference each year and we're only about 1/3 of the way there.



Support a student by making a contribution through the Student Scholarship Fund available on the TIAK website at <https://tiak.org/payments/>.



Donate an auction item at the Kansas Tourism Conference and you could win a prize while helping to support TIAK! Bidders will vote for the best themed item (must have a value of at least \$50) to determine the 2018 Theme winner. Enter your auction donation through the form on the [TIAK conference page](#).

MEET YOUR TIAK TRAVEL AGENTS SERIES

JIM ZALESKI, TIAK TREASURER



Jim Zaleski is a 23-year veteran of the Tourism Industry and is one of 22 individuals that have been bestowed the Fellowship of Certified Destination Management Executives or FCDME distinction from the Destinations International organization.

He has served at the Vice President level of the Lake County, Indiana CVB and the Atlantic City Convention and Visitors Authority as well as serving as the Executive Director of the Joplin, Missouri CVB, Parsons Chamber of Commerce and Labette County Kansas Tourism Bureau.

An avid tournament fisherman, he wouldn't live anywhere other than Southeast Kansas and has an endearing relationship with the outdoor opportunities available in his part of the state. He is proud to live in a town named one of the "Top Ten Whitetail Towns in the Nation" by Outdoor Life Magazine and loves to promote the outdoor opportunities offered across the great state of Kansas. He has been recognized nationally for his radio show, "Fishing the Four States" and was most recently named the communicator of the year by the Kansas Wildlife Federation.



Jim is currently serving in his second year as chairman of the TIAK advocacy committee and sits as the organization's treasurer on the board of directors. He is proud of the growth and undertakings being made by TIAK and looks forward to helping the organization grow in its influence across the state and nation in the travel and tourism industry. ■

Jim representing TIAK through Economic Lifelines bill signing



UPCOMING TRAVEL CALENDAR

June 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<u>1</u>	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13		15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Click on the highlighted calendar dates for more information.

June 1

Governor's Council on Tourism meeting

June 13-14

TIAK Executive Committee Meeting

TIAK Board Meeting

June 17

Father's Day

June 18-22

Tourism Road Show

Every Thursday

e-Learning Webinars
(see Pg. 5 for more details)

For a complete listing of 2018 TIAK meetings, visit the TIAK website.

HOSPITALITY HUB



**2018
KANSAS ELECTION DATES**

Primary Election

August 7, 2018

Early Voting:

July 31–August 6

Voter Registration Deadline:

Tuesday, July 17

General Election

November 6, 2018

Early Voting:

October 22–November 5

Voter Registration Deadline:

Tuesday, October 6



Sales Manager Higher Education position available at eXplore Lawrence.

To review the complete list of opportunities available, visit the TIAK website.



Educate yourself in 2018 compliments of the Kansas Tourism Division. Kansas Tourism partners, sign up with a username and password [HERE](#). Access recorded programs at anytime or view live webinars each Thursday.

UPCOMING ONLINE COURSES

JUNE 2018 SCHEDULE

Content for Bots, Chat, and Service 4.0 Environments: Considerations for an Integrated Content Strategy
Thursday, June 7

Everything You Need to Know About Tracking Your Facebook ROI
Thursday, June 21

Measuring the Effectiveness of your Travel Influencer Marketing Campaign
Thursday, June 28

Check out all of our upcoming webinars [HERE](#).



RECORDED COURSES

Kansas Tourism partners, sign up with username and password [HERE](#). Then view the recorded webinars [HERE](#).

EDUCATIONAL TOUR

Visit the Educational section of the TIAK website under “Resources” by clicking [here](#) for a listing of additional educational opportunities.



KANSAS FLYOVER PBS SERIES

[Mike Blair](#) recently contacted TIAK regarding a new PBS television series and a second weekly TV segment on Positively KS (PBS statewide and KSN NBC network), focused on the Kansas outdoors and entitled “Wild Edge.” It also has been approved for broadcast in several other Midwestern states and their PBS networks pending closed-captioning and final tweaking.

Mike has requested a sponsorship for his series. He often does short promos for Kansas CVBs that help him with lodging accommodations across the state, and although he focuses on the outdoors and wildlife resources in the state, some municipalities are pleased to get the website material in exchange for the help. You may view several of Mike’s 1-minute promos here:

- <https://youtu.be/Ahkk9jijnEiY>
- <https://youtu.be/OixhTJoOLx8>

“Because of my television presence, and the fact that virtually no other similar material is being produced for television throughout the Midwest, I hope that your organization might find it valuable for some sponsorship help.

Contact the [TIAK office](#) for more information. ■

TOURISM LEGISLATIVE REPORT



The 2018 Legislative Session ended on May 4th due to a truncated 8-day Veto Session resulting from a procedural vote taken just before the end of regular session setting the “Sine Die” official

end to the 2018 Legislative Session. Many wondered if the hard deadline would hold or if another vote could be taken to move back Sine Die. In the end the date held, and lawmakers went home having passed the two most important remaining issues—a school finance trailer bill and the budget. Below are the 2018 Legislative highlights of issues impacting Kansas tourism.

SB 331: State Parks—Additional Designations

SB 331 adds to the list of designated state parks the Flint Hills Trail State Park located in Miami, Franklin, Osage, Lyon, Morris, and Dickinson counties and Little Jerusalem Badlands State Park located in Logan County. The bill also establishes the Flint Hills Advisory Council, which will study and assess the development, staffing, maintenance, and promotion of the Flint Hills Nature Trail. In addition, the bill removes the Prairie Spirit Rail Trail State Park and the Flint Hills Trail State Park from current setback requirements for swine-confined animal feeding operations.

The bill also directs the KDWPT to carry out the requirements in state law regarding the duties of the responsible party after a transfer of a deed for land or water recreational areas. This will apply to the state parks designated by the bill that are subject to federal law regarding interim use of railroad rights-of-way. Among the duties required to be performed by the responsible party are safety, accessibility, litter control, and law enforcement.

Finally, the bill clarifies that property contained within or encumbered by any railroad rights-of-way that have been transferred or conveyed to the KDWPT for interim

use as a rail trail under federal law and is part of a state park will be deemed to be acquired and used for state park purposes and will therefore be exempt from property or ad valorem taxation.

For a full text of the bill click [here](#).

SB 415: Deposit of Revenue in State Fair Capital Improvements Fund

SB 415 diverts a portion of state sales tax collections by the Kansas State Fair (Fair) and retailers on the fairgrounds from the State General Fund (SGF) to the State Fair Capital Improvements Fund (SFCIF), effective July 1, 2018. Previously, 83.846 percent of such collections was allocated to the SGF and 16.154 percent to the State Highway Fund (SHF). The SFCIF will not receive the SHF’s relative portion of the Fair-related collections. The diversion provisions expire if the Fair is to be located outside the city limits of Hutchinson.

For a full text of the bill click [here](#).

HB 2470: Microbreweries Production; Alcoholic Candy; Domestic Beer in Refillable Containers; Hours of Sale for Alcohol; Self-service Beer from Automated Devices

HB 2470 allows microbreweries in Kansas to contract with other microbreweries for production and packaging of beer and hard cider, creates and amends law related to the sale of alcoholic candy and to the sale of domestic beer in refillable containers, allows licensed microbrewers in the state to produce beer containing up to 15.0 percent alcohol by weight, and allows self-service beer from automated machines.

The bill also increases the length of time that certain businesses may serve or sell alcohol. Establishments licensed to serve alcohol will be allowed to sell drinks starting at 6:00 a.m. Under current law, establishments may not sell drinks between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. Farm wineries, microbreweries, and microdistilleries will be allowed to sell their respective alcoholic products in their original containers between 6:00 a.m. and 12:00 a.m. on any day. Current law limits the hours these establishments may sell alcohol on Sundays, be-

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TOURISM LEGISLATIVE REPORT (CONT.)

(Continued from page 7)

tween 12:00 p.m. and 6 p.m. for farm wineries and between 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. for microbreweries and microdistilleries. The bill becomes law upon publication in the Kansas Register.

For a full text of the bill click [here](#).

tion in the Kansas Registrar and a reference to antique amusement rides. Both SB 310 and House Sub. for SB 307 were approved by the Governor on May 8, 2018.

Specifically, the bills added definitions for “Limited-use amusement ride” and “Registered agritourism activity.” It also lists rides specifically excludes as “Amusement rides” including antique amusement ride (built prior to

T I A K
P A C

It is important to support candidates who support our Tourism industry! Working to make sure pro-tourism candidates can carry our voice and speak for TIAK’s concerns is an important part of the election cycle. In addition to our votes on election day, candidates also need our financial support in the weeks and months leading up to that date.

As a member of TIAK, you can both serve on the TIAK PAC as well as make donations. Your contributions of both time and money when combined with those of other TIAK members makes even the smallest amounts impactful.

We are in need of information about candidates and their support of Tourism. If you are interested in learning about candidates and sharing this information with other TIAK members, please consider serving on the TIAK PAC. Otherwise, please consider making a donation this election cycle. Questions? Contact [Kevin Fern](#).

NOTE: PAC contributions should NOT be made from public funds. For more information, visit the [TIAK website](#) or contact [Kevin Fern to serve on the PAC Board](#).

SB 284: Adoption Protection Act; Amendments to Kansas Adoption and Relinquishment Act

The bill creates the Adoption Protection Act, which states, notwithstanding any other provision of state law and to the extent allowed by federal law, no child placement agency (CPA), shall be required to perform, assist, counsel, recommend, consent to, refer, or otherwise participate in any placement of a child for foster care or adoption when the proposed placement of such child violates such CPA’s sincerely held religious beliefs.

NOTE: TIAK, as part of the Kansas Employers for Liberty Coalition (KELC), opposed SB 284 based on concerns it could give cause for additional travel bans on the state of Kansas. For a full text of the bill click [here](#).

SB 310 & House Sub. for SB 307: Kansas Amusement Ride Act

The language of SB 307 is identical to the provisions of SB 310, except for the effective date of upon publica-

1/1/30); limited-use amusement rides; registered agritourism activities; any ride commonly known as a hayrack ride or barrel train, and amusement rides owned by an individual and operated solely within a single county for strictly private use. Limited use, antique and agritourism rides must apply for annual permit.

In addition, “Water slide” means a slide at least 30 feet in height and uses water to propel the patron through the ride. An attendant must be stationed at each water slide 15 or more feet in height. Water slides under 30 feet in height will not be subject to the requirements of the Amusement Ride Act. However, all slides 15 feet or more in height will still be required to have an attendant stationed at the slide while in operation.

Finally, no inflatable device rented on a regular basis and erected at a temporary location may be operated in the state unless the operator has been trained by a

(Continued on page 9)

TOURISM LEGISLATIVE REPORT (CONT.)

(Continued from page 8)

person who has attained a basic inflatable safety operations certification from the Safe Inflatable Operators Training Organization.

For a full text of the bill click [here](#).

Sub. for HB 2194: Lottery Ticket and Instant Bingo Vending Machines; Extending the Sunset of the Kansas Lottery

Sub. for HB 2194 amends the Kansas Lottery Act (Act) to allow the use of lottery ticket vending machines and bingo vending machines and extends the sunset for the Kansas Lottery from July 1, 2022, to July 1, 2037. The bill also authorizes the Executive Director of the Kansas Lottery to enter into agreements with licensed nonprofit organizations for the operation of instant bingo vending machines on the premises of nonprofit organizations. No more than two instant bingo vending machines can be located on the premises of the nonprofit organization directing transfers from the Lottery Operating Fund. The bill takes effect upon publication in the Kansas Register.

For a full text of the bill click [here](#).

House Sub. for SB 391: Joint Legislative Transportation Vision Task Force

House Sub. for SB 391 establishes the Joint Legislative Transportation Vision Task Force and requires a report be submitted to the Kansas Legislature by January 31, 2019, concerning all work and recommendations of the Task Force. The Task Force members include legislators, legislative leadership appointees as well as League of Municipalities, Association of Counties and Economic Lifeline appointees. Ex officio nonvoting members include Secretaries of Transportation, Revenue, Agriculture, or their designees and CEO of the Kansas Turnpike Authority or designee. The bill requires appointed members who are not legislators to be affiliated with a list of stakeholder organizations, but no more than two members may be appointed from the

same organization. The Speaker of the House and President of the Senate are allowed to appoint outside of the stakeholder list.

For a full text of the bill click [here](#).

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HB 2650: State Symbols

HB 2650 designates the official state rock as Greenhorn limestone, the official state mineral as galena, the official state gemstone as jelinite amber, and the official state fish as the channel catfish.

For a full text of the bill click [here](#).

SB 262: Construction of a Statue Honoring Dwight D. Eisenhower

SB 262 authorizes the Capitol Preservation Committee to approve plans to place a permanent statue of Dwight D. Eisenhower on the Kansas Capitol

grounds. It also authorizes the Department of Administration to receive moneys from grants, gifts, contributions, or bequests to finance the construction of the statue and its pedestal. The bill takes effect upon publication in the Kansas Register.

For a full text of the bill click [here](#).

HB 2437: National Day of the Cowboy

HB 2437 amends law concerning observance of the National Day of the Cowboy by stating the fourth Saturday in July shall be designated as the National Day of the Cowboy. Current law requires state officials to issue proclamations inviting people of the state to observe the National Day of the Cowboy, directing the U.S. flag be displayed on all state buildings, and authorizing display of the National Day of the Cowboy flag on the grounds of the State Capitol Building on the last Friday of July. The bill specifies such proclamations and flag displays shall occur on the Friday immediately preceding the National Day of the Cowboy. The bill takes effect upon publication in the Kansas Register.

For a full text of the bill click [here](#). ■

SECRETARY OF STATE MIKE POMPEO

Statement from [U.S. Travel](#)



The U.S. Travel Association commends the U.S. Senate on its confirmation of Mike Pompeo as Secretary of State. We look forward to working with him on policies and programs that help grow our economy, advance our diplomacy and protect our security.

“We strongly believe that the U.S. can be both the most secure and the most welcoming country in the world. With many shared objectives in front of us—especially those that allow approved travelers to visit the U.S. with ease—we are eager to be

good and effective partners as Mr. Pompeo ascends to the role as the nation’s top diplomat.

“In his confirmation hearing, Mr. Pompeo affirmed his commitment to upholding Open Skies agreements. The Trump administration has expressed the value Open Skies creates for the economy and American workers, and has allowed the current agreements to remain in place. We are pleased that Mr. Pompeo has signaled he will hold to the administration’s position.

“And as a former lawmaker, Mr. Pompeo has engaged with constituents representing many segments of our industry, and supported issues of importance to the U.S. travel community, including expansion and security enhancements to the critically important U.S. Visa Waiver Program.” ■

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
(CLICK ON EACH LINK FOR
MORE INFORMATION):

June 1, 2018

[Governor’s Council on
Tourism meeting](#)
Topeka, Kan.

June 13, 2018

[TIAK Executive Cmte Mtng](#)
Dodge City, Kan.

June 14, 2018

[TIAK Board Meeting](#)
Dodge City, Kan.

June 18-22, 2018

Tourism Roadshow

August 8, 2018

[TIAK Executive Cmte Mtng](#)
Wichita, Kan.

August 9, 2018

[TIAK Board Meeting](#)
Wichita, Kan.

taste

OF



Travel Industry Association of Kansas (TIAK)

Not sure if you should bite off
more than you can chew?

Any new member can join TIAK in 2018 for just **\$50!**
This special “Taste of TIAK” is good for new members only,
and is being offered through the end of the year.

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