



Kansas Legislative Research Department

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October 13, 2020

To: Legislative Coordinating Council

Re: Legislative Budget Committee Recommendations to Expend State General Fund
Coronavirus Response Moneys

The Legislative Budget Committee (Committee) met on October 7, 2020, and heard a request from the Kansas State Fair Board (Board) for funding from the Coronavirus Response Fund.

The Committee makes the following recommendation.

Kansas State Fair Board

The Board requested \$2.3 million in fiscal year (FY) 2021 from the State General Fund (SGF) to replace lost revenue due to the cancellation of the 2020 State Fair. Using the 2019 State Fair's revenue and expenditures, the Board estimates a revenue shortfall of \$2.3 million. The Board stated the revenue shortfall has resulted in the elimination of two positions and the furlough of employees in four positions. Four additional employees have left the agency of their own accord, leaving the agency short-staffed by ten positions. According to the Board, in order to prepare for, plan, and execute the 2021 State Fair, the furloughed employees will need to be reinstated by early calendar year 2021.

On June 18, 2020, the Legislative Coordinating Council approved the transfer of \$205,000, all from the Coronavirus Response account of the SGF, to the Board for FY 2020 to replace lost revenue from non-Fair facility rentals and RV Park revenue due to canceled events in March, April, and May.

In order to enable full planning and execution of the 2021 State Fair, the Committee recommends the Legislative Coordinating Council approve the transfer of \$1.0 million from the Coronavirus Response account of the SGF to the Board for FY 2021. The Committee also requests an update from the Fair at a meeting before the start of the 2021 Legislative Session if federal legislation to assist state fairs is not enacted.