Legislative Updates

Online Sales Tax (HB2756):

A hearing was held on Thursday, March 1 on HB2756. HB2756 is legislation that affects the collection of online sales tax. The League supports this legislation. We encourage you to contact your legislators and let them know this issue is important and you would like to see the legislation passed out of the House Tax Committee for a full debate. Contact Trey Cocking with questions on this issue.

STAR Bond Legislation (SB432 and SB434):

There are two pieces of legislation on STAR Bonds now in the legislature. SB432 concerns the transparency of projects, financial viability, and reforms to the STAR Bond Financing Act. SB434 amends STAR Bonds by limiting financing to tourist attractions, limiting state revenue contribution, and limiting benefits for certain businesses. We are coordinating testimony from cities on both of these bills. Please contact Amanda Stanley with questions on this issue.

Confidentiality of Records of Police Officers/Law Enforcement Officers (HB2625):

HB2625 amends current law relating to the registry of employment information maintained by CPOST. Currently, information in that registry is required to be made available to agencies that appoint or elect law enforcement officers. Under the bill, all records in the registry would generally become confidential and not subject to disclosure under KORA, although the bill would create new exceptions to that confidentiality and would specify who may receive the information. The League provided neutral testimony to the House Corrections and Juvenile Justice Committee on Thursday.

Sales Tax Manual Now On Sale

We’ve updated our League publication, Levying a Local Sales Tax in Kansas. This 2018 update is a procedural manual which has been prepared by the League of Kansas Municipalities staff for use by cities and their staff. The sample ordinances, resolutions and forms contained in this manual may be reproduced for the sole purpose of levying a local option sales tax. The manual is available for purchase online. Member pricing is $35.00; non-member pricing is $55.00. Get your copy today!

GBI Agenda At-a-Glance:

Keynote Speaker:  "Building Your Legacy of Public Service," Mary Birch, Government Relations Coordinator, Lathrop & Gage, LLP

City Government 101: Concurrent breakout sessions on topics including civility, Kansas Open Meetings Act, Home Rule, municipal finance, economic development and planning, personnel management, public safety and code enforcement.

All attendees receive a copy of the 2018 Governing Body Handbook at the conference. This year, there will be special events for mayors and council/commissioners.

Download the full agenda online: www.lkm.org/gbi
**Legislative Updates (Continued)**

March 1, and expressed our concerns over the potential unintended consequences of making disclosure of registry information by CPOST to an agency discretionary. Contact Doug Taylor with questions on this issue.

**Taxation of Strong Beer by CMB Licensees (HB2502):**

*HB2502*, which addresses the taxation issue on sales of strong beer by cereal malt beverage (CMB) licensees, had a hearing in Senate Federal and State Affairs committee and was passed out of that committee without amendments. It is now below the line in the Senate. Contact Doug Taylor with questions on this issue.

**Tax Lid Exemptions (HB2755):**

*HB2755* is a bill dealing with an exemption to the tax lid for consolidation of governmental units. The League testified in support of the legislation at a hearing on Wednesday, February 28 in the House Tax Committee. The Kansas Association of Realtors and the Kansas Chamber are supportive of the bill. After the hearing, the committee voted to pass the bill out favorably and placed it on the House consent agenda with hopeful final action mid-week next week. Contact Trey Cocking with questions on this issue.

**Amusement Ride Act (SB307):**

There have been some indications there will be a hearing on *SB307* in the House Federal and State Affairs Committee next week. There appears to be support by some House members to leave the municipal water slide exemption which was amended into the bill by the Senate. However, we have also heard there may be some resistance to the exemption. The League will continue to pursue the exemption when the hearing does take place. Contact Eric Smith with questions on this issue.

Each week, the League publishes a legislative calendar in League News with hearings/meetings that may interest our members.

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**Upcoming Classes**

Due to weather, the League postponed our Manhattan MTI on Municipal Finance. The course will now be offered on Friday, March 23 instead. Registration will be kept open for this class if you wish to register for the Friday, March 23 class. Anyone who registered already will be kept on the registration list.

To register for our MTI classes, visit our website.

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**FREE WEBINAR ON ONLINE SALES TAX**

The International Municipal Lawyers Association and the State and Local Legal Center has a free, 30-minute podcast on the upcoming Supreme Court review of *South Dakota v. Wayfair*. The Supreme Court will hear oral arguments in *South Dakota v. Wayfair* on April 17. In this case, South Dakota is asking the Supreme Court to allow states to require out of state vendors to collect sales tax.

Listen to the podcast online on Soundcloud.

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**Hiring Public Safety Officials**

March 9 (Belle Plaine)
March 30 (Leavenworth)

Attracting, hiring and maintaining quality public safety officials is an issue of great importance to cities.

The League is offering a NEW Municipal Training Institute class for municipalities to learn the best practices for Kansas cities to use throughout the hiring process for public safety positions.

For more information and to register, visit www.lkm.org/events.

The MTI will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cost to attend: this course is $75 for member cities, $100 for nonmember cities. Lunch and materials provided.