

SHANNON FRANCIS

Kansas House District 125



Newsletter February 18, 2017

In Topeka



Ryan Doll stopped by the office. Ryan and Sachie Shiba were selected to be part of the All-State Academic Team by Phi Theta Kappa and the Kansas Association of Community College Trustees.



Will Ponder, Yulissa Gomez, Polly Ward, and Kelli Vu of the Liberal High School Jobs for American Grads (JAG) were in Topeka for recognition of their program. The

Contact Shannon

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Useful Resources

[State of Kansas Website](#)

[The Kansas Legislature](#)

[Legislative Bill Reports](#)

[Listen Live to Proceedings](#)

[Find a State Agency](#)

[Kansas unclaimed Property](#)

[Current Road Conditions](#)

[National Do Not Call List](#)

[Kansas Charity Check](#)

Useful Phone Numbers

Department On Aging
800-432-3535

Child/Adult Abuse Hotline
800-922-5330

students of LHS always impress me.



I had a great talk with LHS Grad Adebayo Braimah. He currently attends KU and was at the Capitol presenting his senior research project.

Tax Bill Sent to Governor

Thursday, with a vote of 76-48, the House voted to approve a tax bill ([Sub HB 2178](#)), which restores fairness in the state's tax code. Most notably, this bill closes the LLC loophole, which has exempted about 330,000 businesses from paying income taxes. The plan also: restores deductions for medical expenses so that Kansans living in nursing homes and those with significant out-of-pocket medical expenses can deduct those expenses from their income taxes; restores the ability of business owners and farmers to deduct their business losses rather than having to pay income taxes on those losses; and restores a three-bracket income structure. Under the tax changes passed by the Legislature in 2012, the state's three-bracket structure was collapsed into two brackets. With a third tier added back in, HB 2178 re-adjusts rates to a middle ground where rates are higher than the current rates, but 15% to 23% lower than pre-2012 rates. Here is a chart that shows a comparison of the tax rates:

Individual Income Tax Brackets, Married Filing Jointly

Taxable income	Tax Year	Current Law	Sub for HB 2178
	1992-2012	<u>Tax year 2016</u>	Tax year 2017
\$0 - \$12,500	3.5%	0%	0%
\$12,501 - \$30,000	3.5%	2.7%	2.7%
\$30,001 - \$60,000	6.25%	4.6%	5.25%

Child & Family Services

888-369-4777

Consumer Protection

800-432-2310

Crime Tip Hotline

1-800-KSCRIME

(1-800-572-7463)

Crime Victims'

Information Referral

800-828-9745

Disability / Social

Security Fraud Hotline

800-269-0271

Edler Abuse Hotline

800-842-0078

Governor Brownback

Constituent Services

800-748-4408

Highway Road Conditions

1-866-511-5638

In-State Dial 511

Housing Hotline

800-752-4422

KanCare Clearinghouse

800-792-4884

Kansas Lottery

800-544-9467

Legislative Hotline

800-432-3924

Mental Health Services

888-582-3759

\$60,001 - \$100,000	6.45%	4.6%	5.25%
\$100,001 +	6.45%	4.6%	5.45%

Based on estimates, this plan is projected to raise enough revenue to prevent cuts to our K-12 schools this fiscal year.

The Senate passed the bill on Friday morning with a vote of 22-18. Once the Governor receives the bill, he has ten days to either sign or veto the bill. If the Governor takes no action, the bill becomes law.

As I have said repeatedly, we need real revenue reform that provides a fair, stable, and reliable fix that doesn't pit businesses and families against each other or favor one business type over another. Plans presented in the past, some enacted by the Legislature, took us further down the road we were on – a road that continually threatened funding for our schools, took from KDOT, deferred payments to KPERS, raised sales taxes, and took away certainty for our businesses.

I am committed to ensuring that core state functions have the resources needed to perform their duties while keeping the tax burden of citizens at the lowest level possible. I was elected to represent those who live and work in the 125th District. This wasn't an easy vote and it will likely be used against me in the future, but it is what an overwhelming number of you have asked me to do and it is what I believe is necessary to restore fiscal responsibility to our state.

State Spending

Revenue reform is only one side of the ledger. Spending reform must also be part of the solution. Just like in our own homes with our personal budgets, the Legislature has a responsibility to carefully evaluate all expenses and pass a balanced budget.

Reducing the size of government has been a priority over the past few years: nine rounds of budget cuts have occurred over the past six years, the number of state employees has been reduced by 2,816; and more than 51% of the state budget is dedicated to education and our K-12 schools. The solutions going forward must provide for a structural balance, where we find more efficiencies in

**National Suicide
Prevention Lifeline
800-273-8255**

**School Safety Hotline
877-626-8203**

**Taxpayer Assistance
785-368-8222**

**Tax Refund Status
800-894-0318**

**Unclaimed Property
800-432-0386**

**Unemployment Insurance
800-292-6333**

**Voter Registration
800-262-8683**

**Welfare Fraud Hotline
800-432-3913**

**Workmans Compensation
800-332-0353**

state government while also ensuring we don't short-change our schools or endanger services for the elderly and disabled.

“An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.”

Benjamin Franklin

Legislative Coffee

I will be having my next Legislative Forum Saturday, February 25th at 10 am at Rock Island Depot sponsored by the Liberal Chamber of Commerce. Please come by and let me know your thoughts.

Constituent Services

Please reach out to me regarding issues with our state government that I can help with. I do ask that you send the request to me by email. This insures that I get the information correctly to the agency we are working with. Thank you for the opportunity to serve. Please contact me anytime. My email is: Shannon.francis@house.ks.gov. Topeka Office Phone: (785) 296-7466 Office at the Capitol: 561W (fifth floor west wing) 300 SW 10th Ave., Topeka KS 66612.



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Paid for by Shannon Francis for State Representative, Lisa Hatcher Treasurer