



2025 Legislative Priorities

Issue	Summary/Proposed Solution	Staff
Treatment of Agriculture Land in Urban Renewal Authorities	Agricultural land is intended to be included in an Urban Renewal Authority (URA) only under very specific, limited circumstances. Currently, a loophole allows agricultural land to be moved from an existing URA and its associated Tax Increment Financing (TIF) district to a new URA and TIF district, thus restarting the 25-year TIF clock. Close this loophole to ensure agricultural land is only included in URAs under the circumstances originally intended.	Reagan Shane
Responsibilities of Employer in Civil Judgements for Civil Rights Violations	Statute is conflicting by holding both public entities and individuals responsible for indemnification in the event of a civil rights violation. Clarification of this responsibility is being sought.	Kevin Neimond
County Courthouse Funding	Utilize state Certificates of Participation to leverage financing to assist with the construction of county courthouses.	Kevin Neimond
Increase Cap of County Lodging Tax	Provide counties with the authority to implement a lodging tax up to 6% from the current 2% cap. Amend the current statute to allow counties to seek voter approval on tax increase.	Dylan Peper
Electric Vehicle Charging Station Tax & Gas Tax Collection	Counties face a fiscal crisis over roadway maintenance and the Highway Users Tax Fund is insufficient at covering the cost. Add funds to HUTF through a public electric vehicle charging station tax and a gasoline excise tax.	Dylan Peper & Meghan MacKillop
County Revenue Diversification	County revenue streams have become more unstable in recent years. Grant counties the authority to propose diverse tax solutions, such as levying a Countywide Excise Tax or a Sales and Use Tax in unincorporated areas by statute.	Dylan Peper
Property Tax Proceedings	There are several areas for improvement within the overall property tax protest & adjustment/abatement & refund system that could increase transparency and fairness in the proceedings.	Dylan Peper
Responsibility for Railroad Maintenance Projects	County governments are required to help railroads pay for their maintenance and upgrades without any discussion. Compel BNSF and other railroad companies to pay their fair share.	Meghan MacKillop