GENERAL SUMMARY OF ABANDONED PROPERTIES STATUTES

KSA 12-175- through 12-1756g govern cities' powers and duties regarding abandoned or dangerous properties. KSA 2014 Supp. 12-1750, subsection (c), defines "abandoned property" as:

- (1) Any residential real estate for which taxes are delinquent for the preceding two years and which has been unoccupied continuously by persons legally in possession for the preceding 90 days; or
- (2) Commercial real estate for which the taxes are delinquent for the preceding two years and which has a blighting influence on surrounding properties. "Commercial real estate" means any real estate for which the present use is other than one to four residential units or for agricultural purposes.

KSA 12-1751 grants cities the authority to do either of the following:

- (a) Cause the repair or removal of, or to remove any structure located within the city, which may have become unsafe or dangerous; or
 - (b) Cause the rehabilitation of or to rehabilitate any abandoned property located within the city.
- KSA 12-1756a permits an organization to file a petition with the district court for temporary possession of an abandoned property, for purposes of rehabilitating the property and using it as housing, under certain circumstances. The remaining statutes prescribe the hearing process and response and remediation action process to be implemented and the time line of that process in the instance of a city's finding of unsafe or dangerous or abandoned property.
- KSA 12-1756b through 12-1756d would NOT be amended by 2017 SB 71. Those statutes include additional protections for property owners:
- 12-1756b requires an organization with possession to file reports with the court at least once a year, detailing amounts spent on rehabilitation and for real estate taxes and payments to mortgagees and lienholders.
- 12-1756c entitles the owner to regain possession of the property if the owner pays the rehabilitation organization an amount determine by the court for the organization's expenditures.
- 12-1756d states that, if the property is sold for unpaid taxes, an organization with temporary possession may redeem the property in the same manner as the owner and amounts paid to redeem the property shall be included as expenditures in the organization's report to the court.
- 12-1756e allows for the granting of a quit-claim judicial deed for an organization. <u>Note</u>: The bill would remove a process for getting a quit-claim judicial deed (in KSA 12-1756e) and add a process for obtaining quiet title.

SUMMARY: HISTORY OF AMENDMENTS IN SB 31 As Recommended by At Least One Chamber Proposed wording in 2017 SB 31 Passed by at least one chamber 2016 SB 338. as amended 2013 HB 2075, in 2017 SB 31. (S: 32-8; as amended new provisions in red type page, line(s) H: 79-44) (H: 102-19) KSA 2016 Supp. 12-1750 (Section 1) "Abandoned property" different: residential, add second reason: 1, lines 17-22 different: unoccupied for definition unoccupied for 15 months, has blighting unoccupied for influence; exceptions if exterior 365 days rather 180 days, no than 15 months maintained, property is subject to exceptions property dispute or mortgage SAME 'Commercial real estate" add "approved" to read "present 1, line 26 SAME definition approved use" SAME "Blighting influence" replace "morals" with "welfare" 1, line 29 SAME definition see separate table for differences 'blighting influence" definition remove "or which have an adverse 1, lines 30-31 SAME different impact on properties in the area" 1, line 33 SAME different remove "light" specify "lack of" sanitary facilities 1, line 33 SAME different SAME remove "uncleanliness" 1, line 34 SAME remove provisions about natural growth 1. lines 35-36 SAME different or unsightly appearance remove provisions related to exterior 2, lines 2-3 SAME SAME remove "inadequate drainage" 2. line 5 SAME SAME 2, lines 5-6 specify "property maintenance codes" SAME SAME 2, lines 6-7 add "which constitute a health or safety SAME similar threat" 'Organization" definition require the organization to have been in 2, line 10 SAME not included existence for >=3 years 2, line 18 Sunset for "blighting 3 years after law takes effect SAME not included influence" portion of residential definition KSA 2016 Supp. 12-1756a (Section 2) different: housing Allow an organization to use 2. lines 24-27 SAME the property for housing + + community ancillary uses related to development housing Allow a city (as well as an governing body may file if the property 2, lines 34-43 SAME different: organization) to file a meets the definition of abandoned, the 3. line 1 community petition for temporary city has designated an organization, the development possession organization will rehabilitate the property rather than as housing or for ancillary purposes ancillary purposes city has sent notice to enforcing officer 3, lines 2-4, 6-7 SAME SAME and parties in interest, by certified or registered mail 3. lines 4-7 not included not included city has sent notice to owners of property within 200 feet, by certified or registered mail city has posted the property 20-60 days 3. lines 7-9 SAME SAME before the petition is filed SAME the city governing body has approved 3. lines 12-13 not included filing the petition

Proposed wording in 201	17 SB 31	Passed by at least one chamber					
			2016 SB 338,				
	new provisions in red type	in 2017 SB 31, page, line(s)	as amended (S: 32-8; H: 79-44)	2013 HB 2075, as amended (H: 102-19)			
Information the petition must include	histories of utility and tax payments and code violations and the city's efforts to remedy them, attempts to notify previous owners, actions taken by other governmental entities	3, lines 19-30	SAME	not included			
Allow city (as well as organization) notification to be via publication if due diligence has failed to find a defendant		3, line 33	SAME	SAME			
Court may extend the 90- day compliance period for		3, lines 42-43	SAME	not included			
an indefinite period							
Defendant's affirmative defense may NOT be stricken solely due to delinquent property taxes		4, lines 5-6	SAME	not included			
Require city (or the organization) to submit with the petition a plan to rehabilitate the property		4, line 9	SAME	SAME			
Allow representatives of the city (as well as the organization) to enter the property as the court deems		4, line 13	SAME	SAME			
appropriate Court may enter an order approving the rehabilitation plan and temporary possession to the city (or to the organization)		4, lines 19, 21	SAME	different: court "shall"			
Remove the option for an organization to lease the property		4, lines 22-23	SAME	not included			
Allow an organization to receive quiet title	organization shall seek quiet title 365- 720 days after receiving temporary possession	4, lines 27-30	SAME	not included			
	petitioner for quiet title must notify parties of interest 20-60 days before petition filed, by certified or registered mail	4, lines 30-33	SAME	not included			
	court shall grant the petition if the property has been rehabilitated in accordance with the approved plan	4, lines 34-36	SAME	not included			
	if no petition is filed or a petition is filed but the court finds the property has not been rehabilitated, property to be sold immediately as in a tax foreclosure sale	4, lines 36-43	SAME	not included			
Repealer (Section 3) Repeal KSA 12-1756e	(current provisions: if the original property owner takes no action to regain possession, and after notice, the organization may obtain a quit-claim judicial deed)	5, line 2	SAME	not included			

			DEFINITIONS (KSA 12-1750) (last amended in 2012, SB 207)								
			Abandoned	Property	Blighting Influence	Organization**					
SESSION	BILL#	FINAL STATUS	(1) Residential	(2) Commercial							
	N/A	N/A	Definition added in 1994; changed 3 times:	Definition added in 2012 (SB 207)	Definition added in 2012 (SB 207)	Definition added in 1994 (SB 732)					
				Commercial real estate for which the taxes are delinquent for the preceding two years and which has a blighting influence on surrounding properties. "Commercial real estate" means any real estate for which the present use is other than one to four residential units or for agricultural purposes.	Conditions in such structure which are dangerous or injurious to the health, <u>safety or morals</u> of the occupants of such buildings or other residents of the municipality or which have an <u>adverse impact on properties</u> in the area. <u>Such conditions may include</u> , but are not limited to, the following: Defects increasing the hazards of fire, accident, or other calamities; air pollution; light or sanitary facilities; dilapidation; disrepair; structural defects; uncleanliness; dead and dying trees, limbs or other unsightly natural growth or unsightly appearances that constitute a blight to adjoining property, the neighborhood or the city; walls, sidings or exteriors of a quality and appearance not commensurate with the character of the properties in the neighborhood; unsightly stored or parked material, equipment, supplies, machinery, trucks or automobiles or parts thereof; vermin infestation; inadequate drainage; or any violation of health, fire, building or zoning regulations. (See also Sheet 2)	Any nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of this state and which has among its purposes thimprovement of housing.					
2012	HB 2544	Died - H-LG	Any residential real estate for which taxes are delinquent for the preceding two years and OR which has been unoccupied continuously by persons legally in possession for the preceding 90 120 days	Not included	Not included	No changes proposed					
2012	HB 2646	Amended - H-	Any residential real estate for which taxes are delinquent for the preceding two years and OR which has been unoccupied continuously by persons legally in possession for the preceding 90 180 days	Same as definition added in 2012 (see above)	Same as definition added in 2012 (see above)	No changes proposed					

				DEFINITIONS (KSA 12-1750) (last amended in 2012, SB 207)									
			Abandoned P		Blighting Influence	Organization**							
SESSION	BILL#	FINAL STATUS	(1) Residential	(2) Commercial									
2013	HB 2075	chamber Amended H-LG; H-FA 102-19; Died - S-LG	considered to be abandoned (reasons separated by "or") – being a blighting influence: "unoccupied continuously by persons legally in possession for the	APPROVED use is other than one to our residential units or for agricultural ourposes.	Conditions in such structure which are dangerous or injurious to the health, safety or morals welfare including, but not limited to, economic welfare, of the occupants of such buildings or other residents of the municipality or which have an adverse impact on properties in the area. Such conditions may include, but are not limited to, the following: Defects increasing the hazards of fire, accident, or other calamities; air pollution; light lack of ventilation or sanitary facilities; dilapidation; disrepair; structural defects; uncleanliness; dead and dying trees, limbs or other unsightly natural growth or unsightly appearances that constitute a blight to adjoining property, the neighborhood or the city; walls, sidings or exteriors of a quality and appearance not commensurate with the character of the properties in the neighborhood; unsightly stored or parked material, equipment, supplies, machinery, trucks or automobiles or parts thereof; vermin infestation; inadequate drainage; or any violation of a property maintenance code or of any health, fire, building or zoning regulations. (See also Sheet 2)	No changes							
2015	SB 84	Commerce; S-Stricken	Same as 2013 HB 2075 with addition by S-Commerce: Add a second reason a residence could be considered to be abandoned – being a blighting influence: "unoccupied continuously by persons legally in possession for the preceding 180 days and which has a blighting influence on surrounding properties unless the exterior of the property is being maintained and the property is either the subject of a probate action, action to quiet title or other ownership dispute, or the property is subject to a mortgage."		Conditions in such structure which are dangerous or injurious to the health, safety or morals welfare of the occupants of such buildings or other residents of the municipality or which have an adverse impact on properties in the area. Such conditions may include, but are not limited to, the following: Defects increasing the hazards of fire, accident, or other calamities; air pollution; light lack of ventilation or sanitary facilities; dilapidation; disrepair; structural defects; uncleanliness; dead and dying trees, limbs or other unsightly natural growth or unsightly appearances that constitute a blight to adjoining property, the neighborhood or the city; walls, sidings or exteriors of a quality and appearance not commensurate with the character of the properties in the neighborhood; unsightly stored or parked material, equipment, supplies, machinery, trucks or automobiles or parts thereof; vermin infestation; inadequate drainage; or any violation of a health, fire, building or property maintenance codes or zoning regulations. (See also Sheet 2)	No changes							

			DEFINITIONS (KSA 12-1750) (last amended in 2012, SB 207)									
			Abandoned		Blighting Influence	Organization**						
SESSION	BILL#	FINAL STATUS	(1) Residential	(2) Commercial								
2015	HB 2236	Assigned H-LG; Referred H- Taxation; No hearing	No changes	No changes	Conditions in such structure which are dangerous or injurious to the health, safety, er morals or welfare, including, but not limited to, economic welfare, of the occupants of such buildings or other residents of the municipality or which have an adverse impact on properties in the area. Such conditions may include, but are not limited to, the following: Defects increasing the hazards of fire, accident, or other calamities; air pollution; light or sanitary facilities; dilapidation; disrepair; structural defects; uncleanliness; dead and dying trees, limbs or other unsightly natural growth or unsightly appearances that constitute a blight to adjoining property, the neighborhood or the city; walls, sidings or exteriors of a quality and appearance not commensurate with the character of the properties in the neighborhood; unsightly stored or parked material, equipment, supplies, machinery, trucks or automobiles or parts thereof; vermin infestation; inadequate drainage; or any violation of health, fire, building or zoning regulations. (See also Sheet 2)							
2016	SB 338	Legislature S-H Commerce Committees; S-FA 32-8; H-FA 79-44; Gov-Vetoed*	(1) Any residential real estate for which taxes are delinquent for the preceding two years and which has been unoccupied continuously by persons legally in possession for the preceding 90 days; [or] (2) Any residential real estate which has been unoccupied continuously by persons legally in possession for the preceding 365 days and which has a blighting influence on surrounding properties, unless the exterior of the property is being maintained and the property is either the subject of a probate action, action to quiet title or other ownership dispute, or the property is subject to a mortgage	No changes	health, safety or merals welfare of the occupants of such buildings or other residents of the municipality or which have an adverse impact on properties in the area. Such conditions may include, but are not limited	Any nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of this state and which has among its purposes th improvement of housing, and has bee in existence for three years or more						

				DEFINITIONS (KSA 12-1750)) (last amended in 2012, SB 207)	
			Abandoned	Property	Blighting Influence	Organization**
SESSION	BILL#	FINAL STATUS	(1) Residential	(2) Commercial		
2017	SB 31		Same as 2015 SB 84 except the period unoccupied would be 15 months rather than 180 days: Add a second reason a residence could be considered to be abandoned – being a blighting influence: "unoccupied continuously by persons legally in possession for the preceding 180 days 15 MONTHS and which has a blighting influence on surrounding properties unless the exterior of the property is being maintained and the property is either the subject of a probate action, action to quiet title or other ownership dispute, or the property is subject to a mortgage."	Same as 2013 HB 2075	Same as 2016 SB 338: Conditions in such structure which are dangerous or injurious to the health, safety or merals welfare of the occupants of such buildings or other residents of the municipality or which have an adverse impact on properties in the area. Such conditions may include, but are not limited to, the following: Defects increasing the hazards of fire, accident, or other calamities; air pollution; light or lack of sanitary facilities; dilapidation; disrepair; structural defects; uncleanliness; dead and dying trees, limbs or other unsightly natural growth or unsightly appearances that constitute a blight to adjoining property, the neighborhood or the city; walls, sidings or exteriors of a quality and appearance not commensurate with the character of the properties in the neighborhood; unsightly stored or parked material, equipment, supplies, machinery, trucks or automobiles or parts thereof; vermin infestation; inadequate drainage; or any violation of health, fire, building or property maintenance codes or zoning regulations which constitute a health or safety threat. (See also Sheet 2)	"[A]ny nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of this state a which has among purposes the improvement of housing and has been in existence a period of three years or more."
nunicipalities t	o craft zonir empowers I	ng laws and codes ocal communities	 n of blighted or abandoned property would gra that could unjustly deprive citizens of their pro to respond to blight and abandoned property t			

SESSION	BILL#	ACTIONS ON BILL (last version summarized)	ENTITIES THAT TEMPORARY PO OF ABAND PROPER Organization	OSSESSION ONED	Uses of		ON may file a petitic	on for temporary	A C1	TY may file a petiti	on for temporary	possession if
	N/A	N/A	Yes	No	Property Housing	possession if: (1) Property meets the definition of "abandoned"	(2) Organization intends to rehabilitate the property and use it	(3) Organization has sent notice				ssion in current law)
2012	HB 2544	Hearing H-LG; Died H-LG	Yes	No			as housing	KSA 12-1756a r	not included in 2012 H	B 2544		
2012		Passed by 1 chamber Amended H-LG; H-FA 121-3; Amended S-LG; Died S-GO	Yes	Yes	Housing	No changes	No changes	No changes	(1) Property meets the definition of "abandoned"	(2) City governing body has designated an organization to rehabilitate the property	(3) Designated organization intends to rehabilitate and use as housing	(4) City governing body ha sent notice of intent to file petition for possession to enforcing officer and interested parties by certified or registered mail and posted on the property 20-60 days before petition filling date
2013		Passed by 1 chamber Amended H-LG; H-FA 102-19; Died - S-LG	Yes	Yes	Housing or for community development	No changes	Chang (2) Organization intends to rehabilitate the property and use it as housing or for community development purposes	es that differ from thos No changes	e proposed in 2012 H (1) Property meets the definition of "abandoned"	8 2646 in red below (2) City governing body has designated an organization to rehabilitate the property	(3) Designated organization intends to rehabilitate and use as housing or for community development purposes	(4) City governing body ha sent notice of intent to file a petition for possession to enforcing officer and interested parties by certified or registered mail and posted on the property 20-60 days before petition filling date
2015	SB 84	Amended S-Commerce; S-Stricken	Yes	Yes	Housing or prior to July 1, 2019, for ancillary facilities related to housing, including but not limited to infrastructure, open space, parks, and parking facilities	No changes from current law	(2) Organization intends to rehabilitate the property and use it as housing or prior to July 1, 2019, for ancillary facilities re: housing, including/ not limited to infrastructure, open space, parks and parking facilities	No changes from current law	Prior to July 1, 2019. if: (1) Meets definition of "abandoned"	Prior to July 1, 2019, if: (2) City governing body has designated an organization to rehabilitate the property	Prior to July 1, 2019, if: (3) Designated organization intends to rehabilitate and use as housing or for ancillary facilities re: housing, including but not limited to infrastructure, open space, parks, and parking facilities	Prior to July 1, 2019, if: (4) City governing body has sent notice of intent to file a petition for possession to enforcing officer and interested parties by certified or registered mail and posted on the property 20-60 days before petition filling date
2015	HB 2236	Assigned H- LG; Referred H-Taxation; No hearing	Yes	Yes	Housing or for community development or economic development purposes	No changes	(2) Organization intends to rehabilitate the property and use it as housing or for community development or economic development purposes	No changes	(1) Property meets the definition of "abandoned"	(2) City governing body has designated an organization to rehabilitate the property	(3) Designated organization intends to rehabilitate and use as housing or for community development or economic development purposes	(4) City governing body has sent notice of intent to file petition for possession to enforcing officer and interested parties by certified or registered mail and posted on the property 20-60 days before petition filing date

Kansas Legislative Research Department

		R	EHABILITATI	ON OF A	BANDONED		PETITION FOR P A 12-1756a, Last Am	OSSESSION; SE	RVICE OF PROC	ESS; REHABIL	ITATION	
SESSION	BILL#	ACTIONS ON BILL (last version summarized)	ENTITIES THAT TEMPORARY PO OF ABAND PROPER	OSSESSION ONED								
			Organization	City	Uses of Property	An ORGANIZATI possession if:	ION may file a petition	on for temporary	A CITY may file a petition for temporary possession if:			
	N/A	N/A	Yes	No	Housing	(1) Property meets the definition of "abandoned"	(2) Organization intends to rehabilitate the property and use it as housing	(3) Organization has sent notice	N/A (cities	not permitted to tak	te temporary posse	ession in current law)
2016	SB 338	Passed by Legislature S-H Commerce Committees: S-FA 32-8; H- FA 79-44; Gov-Vetoed*	Yes	Yes	Housing or, if the petition is filed prior to July 1, 2020, for ancillary facilities related to housing, including infrastructure, parks, and parking facilities	No changes	(2) Organization intends to rehabilitate the property and use it as housing or, prior to July 1, 2020, for ancillary facilities including infrastructure, parks, and parking facilities	No changes except replace reference to KSA 12-1756e with reference to 12- 1756d	Prior to July 1, 2020, if: (1) Meets definition of "abandoned"	Prior to July 1, 2020, if: (2) City governing body has designated an organization to rehabilitate the property	for ancillary	Prior to July 1, 2020, if: (4) City governing body has sent notice of intent to file a petition for possession to enforcing officer and interested parties by certified or registered mail and posted on the property 20-60 days before petition filing date; replace reference to KSA 12-1756e with reference to 12-1756d
2017	SB 31		Yes	Yes	Housing or, if the petition is filed prior to July 1, 2021, for ancillary facilities related to housing, including infrastructure, parks, and parking facilities	No changes	(2) Organization intends to rehabilitate the property and use it as housing or prior to July 1, 2020, for ancillary facilities: infrastructure, open space, parks, or parking facilities	No changes except replace reference to KSA 12-1756e with reference to 12- 1756d	Prior to July 1, 2021, if: (1) Meets definition of "abandoned"	Prior to July 1, 2021, if: (2) City governing body has designated an organization to rehabilitate the property	for ancillary	Prior to July 1, 2021, if: (4) City governing body has sent notice of intent to file a petition for possession to enforcing officer and interested parties by certified or registered mail and posted on the property 20-60 days before petition filing date; replace reference to KSA 12-1756e with reference to 12-1756d

Kansas Legislative Research Department

DEFINITION OF "BLIGHTING INFLUENCE" IN KSA 12-1750

Elements in statutes as of 2012	Proposals for change
	2013 HB 2075: replace "morals" with "welfare"
Dangerous or injurious to the health, safety, or	2015 SB 84: same as 2013 HB 2075; as introduced, also would have added "including, but not limited to, economic welfare"
morals of the occupants, or which have an adverse impact on properties in the area	2015 HB 2236: same as 2015 SB 84 as introduced
advoice impact on proportion in the drea	2016 SB 338: replace "morals" with "welfare" and delete "or which have an adverse impact on properties in the area"
	2017 SB 31: same as 2016 SB 338
Defects increasing the hazards of fire, accident, or other calamities	
Air pollution	
	2013 HB 2075: replace "light" with "lack of ventilation"
Light or sanitary facilities	2015 SB 84: same as 2013 HB 2075
	2016 SB 338: replace with "lack of sanitary facilities"
Direct Letter	2017 SB 31: same as 2016 SB 338
Dilapidation	
Disrepair Structural defects	
Structural defects	2013 HB 2075: remove "uncleanliness"
	2013 HB 2075. Terriove uniclearniness
Uncleanliness	2015 SB 84: same as 2013 HB 2075
Officieal miless	2016 SB 338: same as 2013 HB 2075
	2017 SB 31: same as 2013 HB 2075
Dead and dying trees, limbs or other unsightly	2015 SB 84: remove entire phrase
natural growth or unsightly appearances that constitute a blight to adjoining property, the neighborhood or the city	2016 SB 338: same as 2015 SB 84
gggg.	2017 SB 31: same as 2015 SB 84
	2013 HB 2075: remove entire phrase
Walls, sidings or exteriors of a quality and appearance no commensurate with the	2015 SB 84: same as 2013 HB 2075
character of the properties in the neighborhood	2016 SB 338: same as 2013 HB 2075
	2017 SB 31: same as 2013 HB 2075

DEFINITION OF "BLIGHTING INFLUENCE" IN KSA 12-1750

Elements in statutes as of 2012	Proposals for change
Unsightly stored or parked material,	
equipment, supplies, machinery, trucks or	
automobiles or parts thereof	
Vermin infestation	
	2013 HB 2075: remove entire phrase
Inadequate drainage	2015 SB 84: same as 2013 HB 2075
	2016 SB 338: same as 2013 HB 2075
	2017 SB 31: same as 2013 HB 2075
	2013 HB 2075: add words to read "any violation of <u>a</u> <u>property maintenance code or</u> of any health, fire, building or zoning regulations"
Any violation of health, fire, building or zoning regulations	2016 SB 338: replace with "any violation of health, fire, building or property maintenance codes or zoning regulations which constitute a health or safety threat"
	2017 SB 31: same as 2016 SB 338