

U.S. labor department ends Kansas grant because of DEI

Wire report

A Kansas program aimed at preventing unemployment fraud has been caught in the crosshairs of the Trump administration's crusade against diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives.

The U.S. Department of Labor in May canceled \$400 million in unemployment insurance grants across the country. Included within the grant funding was language that the Trump administration associated with DEI initiatives, such as studying the "equity of the unemployment system" and an "equitable access director."

A spokesperson for the department said the cuts were "part of the administration's ongoing effort to remove unlawful DEI programs across government."

But at the Kansas Department of Labor, the rescission didn't eliminate any DEI programs.

Instead, it defunded a program that implemented identity verification tools, fraud analytics and safeguards to prevent criminal attacks and system failures, which were crucial in the wake of record volumes of fraudulent claims during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Amber Shultz, Kansas labor

secretary, wrote a letter Thursday to U.S. Labor Secretary Lori Chavez-DeRemer, expressing her "deep concern and disappointment" over the federal government's decision, which she called "both confusing and contradictory."

"The rationale of canceling a grant specifically intended to detect and prevent fraud is, frankly, counterproductive," Shultz said in the letter.

Kansas forfeited \$1 million of the \$1.7 million total without forewarning.

"Revoking this support now leaves states more vulnerable to the very threats we were all called to confront," Shultz said.

She called the funding loss "a huge blow," and said she anticipates that employers and claimants will feel the impacts, which could mean slower claims processes.

The termination notice the state received from the federal government reasoned that the grant "no longer effectuates the department's priorities for its grant funding."

Communication between the state and federal departments has been nonexistent. Shultz

said in a phone call that she and department staff have been attempting to communicate with the federal department, without any response.

A statement to Kansas Reflector attributed to a U.S. Department of Labor spokesperson said America's unemployment system is in an "infrastructure crisis, riddled with waste, fraud and abuse."

The statement said the Biden administration squandered its opportunity to fix the system by focusing "on equitable access rather than advancing access for all Americans in need."

Shultz said none of the funding for Kansas' unemployment insurance fraud prevention grant program was used for DEI initiatives.

The federal department is fulfilling its goal, Shultz said, "if they want fraudsters to have equitable access to our funds."

A different grant from the U.S. Department of Labor under the Biden administration, called the equity grant, gave Kansas more than \$4.5 million, which the state used to ensure all Kansans could access the unemployment system. That meant focusing on rural Kansans without broadband access, Shultz said.

Fireworks shows planned at fort, Easton and Field of Dreams

John Richmeier

Leavenworth Times

People wanting to see fireworks on the Fourth of July will have more than one option in Leavenworth County.

Fort Leavenworth will once again host a Fourth of July celebration. The event will take place in the area of Merritt Lake on the Army post.

The festivities will begin with music at 6 p.m. Friday. Admission to the event is free, but there will be fees for food and beverage purchases as well as children's activities, according to the Fort Leavenworth Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation website.

A Salute to the Union will take place at 8 p.m., and the fireworks show will begin at dusk.

The Family and MWR website encourages people to bring blankets or lawn chairs to sit on during the event. For more information, call 913-684-1674.

The city of Easton will have a parade and fireworks show.

The parade will begin at 6:30 p.m. Friday on Kansas 192 Highway in Easton, according to a flyer from Easton City Clerk Becky Jones.

Following the parade, the festivities will continue at the Easton City Park located at First and Broad streets. A concession stand will be open. There will also be shaved ice available and face painting. The Silas Dogan Band will provide music.

A fireworks show will begin once it is dark, according to the flyer.

The Basehor Community Partners organization will host the Red, White & Boom! Independence Day Celebration.

The festivities will take place at the Field of Dreams complex, 14333 Fairmount Road, according to a Facebook post for the event.

Food trucks will be available starting at 6 p.m. Friday. The fireworks show will begin around 9 p.m. The fireworks are sponsored by the city of Basehor.

Parking will be limited at the Field of Dreams. Organizers of the event are recommending that people carpool.

County Commission to meet on Wednesday

Staff report

The Leavenworth

County Commission will meet at 9 a.m. Wednesday at the Leavenworth

County Courthouse, 300 Walnut St. Agenda items include

bridge replacements, a rezoning request and a budget discussion.



Saint John Urgent Care

(913) 680-6200

GET IN. GET OUT. GET WELL.

3550 S 4th Street, #110 | Leavenworth, KS

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Swiss peak

4 Barge

8 Make dry and rough

12 Obstruct

13 Two shoes

14 Big sandwich

15 Friendly

17 "Exodus" author

18 Car for hire

19 Put together

21 Sailor

23 Cap with a tassel

24 Take revenge (2 wds.)

28 Actress Mary — Moore

32 "Go, team!"

33 Letter after zeta

34 Mined material

35 High card

36 Painter Vincent — Gogh

39 Brewed drink

40 Arrow part

43 Ached

45 Pole for fishing

47 Deli bread

48 White-maned horse

52 Altar's place

56 Dismounted

57 Privileged class

59 Much too hasty

60 Actor — Stoltz

61 Golf standard

62 Salver

63 Track event

64 Opening for thread

DOWN

1 Like — out of hell

2 Tibetan monk

3 Grand — race

4 Health resort

5 Nightclub entertainment

6 Lubricates

7 Take forcibly

8 Palsy-walsy

Answer to Previous Puzzle

C	A	D		R	O	T	C		M	A	K	O		
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L	E	S		P	O	N	Y		T	I	N	T		
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59					60					61		
62					63					64		

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TUESDAY EVENING										S=Spectrum W=WOW D=DirecTV DH=Dish										JULY 1, 2025									
S W D DH					7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	12 AM	12:30	1 AM												
BROADCAST CHANNELS																													
KCTV-5	5	5	5	5	NCIS		NCIS: Origins		NCIS "Hell Week"		News (N)		(:35) Colbert (N)		(:35) After Midnight		Investig.	Business											
WDFA-4	6	4	4	4	The Snake		FOX 4 News (N)		News (N)		News (N)		FOX4 Spo		TMZ (N)	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Goldbergs											
KCWE-29	7	17	29	29	WWE NXT (N) (Live)				KMBC 9 News (N)		Sheldon		Big Bang		Two Men		Two Men		Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Bob Heart								
KMCI-38	8	15	38	38	Friends	Friends	Neighbor	Neighbor	Last Man	Last Man	Conners	Conners	Dateline				Inside Ed.	Comics	Flip Side										
KPXE-50	16	18	50	50	Chicago Fire "Viral"		Chicago Fire		Chicago "Fireworks"		Chicago Fire		Chicago "Ambition"				Chicago Fire	Chicago											
KSMO-62	10	3	62	62	My KC Live		Suits "Spain"		Suits		News (N)		(:35) 48 Hours		Crime		Dish Nat.	Forensic	FunnyYou										
KCPT-19	11	7	19	19	Finding Your Roots		Iconic America		Frontline (N)		Antiques Roadshow		Amanpour (N)		Crime		Iconic America	Frontline											
KMBC-9	12	9	9	9	High Potential "Pilot"		High Potential		High Potential		News (N)		(:35) J. Kimmel (N)		Nightline		(:05) ET	(:35) Extra	Pocket										
KSHB-41	13	14	41	41	America's Got Talent		Auditions 1" (N)		Destination X (N)		KSHB 41		(:35) Tonight Show		(:35) Seth Meyers		(:35) KSHB 41												
KTWU-11	19	11			Finding Your Roots		Iconic America		Frontline (N)		BBC News		The Day		TBA		TBA		Finding Your Roots	TBA									
CABLE CHANNELS																													
A&E	35	47	265	138	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Squatters	Squatters	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Squatters											
AMC	42	44	254	130	***** American Sniper (14) Sienna Miller, Bradley Cooper.					***** The Book of Eli (10) Denzel Washington.					Nautilus														
AP	57	78	282	184	Wardens		Wardens		Wardens		Wardens		Wardens		Wardens		Wardens												
BET	25	64	329	124	(6:00) *Proud Mary		Zatima		Queen-Men (N)		Zatima		All the Queen's Men		***** National Security (03)		Martin												
BRAVO	50	43	273	109	The Valley (N)		Next Gen NYC (N)		Honestly		The McBees		Dynasty		The Valley		Next Gen NYC		Housewives Atlanta										
CMDY	37	58	249	127	FamilyGuy	FamilyGuy	FamilyGuy	FamilyGuy	FamilyGuy	FamilyGuy	FamilyGuy	FamilyGuy	FamilyGuy	FamilyGuy	FamilyGuy	Digman!	SouthPark	SouthPark	SouthPark										
CMTV	76	60	327	166	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba	Gold Girls	Gold Girls	Gold Girls	Gold Girls	Gold Girls	Gold Girls	Gold Girls	Gold Girls											
CNBC	29	40	358	208	Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		American Greed		Dateline										
CNN	44	21	202	200	Cooper 360 (N)		The Source With (N)		CNN (N) (Live)		Laura (N) (Live)		Cooper 360		Cooper 360		E. B. OutFront		Source										
CSPAN	64	96	350	210	(4:00) Public Affairs Events										Public Affairs Events														
DISC	45	24	278	182	Homestead Rescue "Mesa Meltdown"					Homestead Rescue "Kentucky Calamity"					Homestead Rescue "It Takes a Village"					Homeste..									
DISN	70	81	290	172	Kiff	Kiff	Stu Go	ZOMBIES	Ladybug	Ladybug	Jessie	Jessie	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey										
E!	53	59	236	114	(5:30) ***** Goodfellas (90) ***** The Departed (06) Matt Damon, Jack Nicholson, Leonardo DiCaprio.										Botched					Botched									
ESPN	33	33	206	140	(6:00) NBA Today Free Agency Special (N)					SportCtr (N) (Live)		SportCtr (N) (Live)		SportCtr (N) (Live)		SportCtr (N) (Live)		SportCtr											
ESPN2	34	34	209	144	The Ultimate Fighter		The Ultimate Fighter		The Ultimate Fighter		ESPYS Nomination		TBA		Good Guy		Pardon		The Ultimate Fighter										
FDSKC	59	36	672		Swing	18 Holes	Pregame	MLB Baseball	Kansas City Royals at Seattle Mariners (N) (Live)					Postgame		MLB Baseball													
FREE	48	82	311	180	(4:55) *Parent Trap		Family		Family		The 700 Club		Boy/World		Boy/World		Boy/World	Boy/World	O2 To Go										
FOOD	52	69	231	110	Chopped		Cuthroat Kite (N)		Chopped		Chopped		Cuthroat Kite		Chopped		Chopped		Chopped										
FOXNWS	60	39	360	205	Jesse (N) (Live)		Hannity (N) (Live)		Gutfeld! (N)		Fox News (N) (Live)		The Five		Jesse Watters		Hannity												
FS1	75	60	607	150	MotoGP Racing		IndyCar Racing		100 Days Finally		Concacaf Gold Cup		USA vs. Costa Rica		Concacaf Gold Cup														
FX	62	56	248	136	***** Black Panther: Wakanda Forever (22) Angela Bassett, Letitia Wright.					***** Eternals (21) Salma Hayek Pinault, Angelina Jolie.																			
GOLF	65	156	218	401	Tiger 2000		Korn Ferry		Golf Fix	Golf Fix	PGATOUR	PGATOUR	Korn Ferry	GOLF Films		Golf Central		PGATOUR											
HALL	61	84	312	185	My Norwegian Holiday (23)					*A Machu Picchu Proposal (25)					Gold Girls					Gold Girls	Gold Girls	Gold Girls							
HGTV	64	71	229	112	Fixer to Fabulous		Rehab Addict (N)		Down Home Fab (N)		House		House		Rehab "Attic Antics"		Down Home Fab		House										
HIST	27	554	269	120	Skinwalker (N)		Skinwalker.		Beyond (N)		(:35) Beyond		Skinwalk..		(:05) Skinwalker		Skinwalk..		(:35) Beyond										
LIFE	51	2	252	108	Castle		Castle		(:05) Castle		(:05) Castle		Castle		Castle		Castle		Castle										
METRO	30				Your News on		Your News on		Your News on		Your News on		Your News on		Your News on		Your News on		News										
MSNBC	28	41	356	209	All In With (N) (Live)		Briefing (N) (Live)		Last Word (N) (Live)		11th Hour (N) (Live)		The Briefing		Last Word		11th Hour												
MTV	24	65	331	160	Unfaithful (N) (SF)		Caught in the (N)		Caught in Act		Caught in Act		Caught in Act		Caught in Act		Caught in Act		Caught										
NBAVT	308		216	156	Free July 1st		Basketball Stories		Basketball Stories		Free		Free		Free		Free		Free										
NGEO	55	83	276		Life Below Zero		Life Below Zero (N)		Life Below Zero		Life Below Zero		Life Below Zero		Life Below Zero		Port Protection		Port Protec										
NICK	49	76	299	170	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Big Bang		Big Bang		Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang										
NWSNTN	15	22	307		Cuomo (N) (Live)		On Balance (N)		Banfield (N) (Live)		Cuomo		On Balance		Banfield		Cuomo												
OWN	63	103	279	189	Deadline: Crime		Deadline: Crime		Deadline: Crime		Deadline: Crime		Deadline: Crime		Deadline: Crime		Deadline: Crime		Deadline										
OXYGEN	73	71	251	127	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Fatal Family Feuds	Feuds											
SCIENCE	28	106	284	193	Strange Evidence		Strange Evidence		Strange Evidence		Strange Evidence		Strange Evidence		Strange Evidence		Strange Evidence		Evidence										
PARMT	38	57	325	168	***** Raiders of the Lost Ark (81) Harrison Ford.					***** Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom (84)					***** Raiders of the Lost Ark														
SYFY	45	55	244	122	***** Crawl (19) Kaya Scodelario.					***** Jurassic World Dominion (22) Chris Pratt.					Revival					Movie									
TBS	14	10	247	139	MLB Baseball Cleveland Guardians at Chicago Cubs (N) (Live)					MLBClose					Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam									
TCM	47	162	256	132	***** Strangers on a Train (51)					***** Side Street (50)					***** The Naked Street (55)					(15) ***** They Live by Night									
TLC	40	68	280	183	Fat Fabulous		Fat Fabulous (N)		1000-lb Roomies (N)		90 Day: Hunt		Fat Fabulous		Fat Fabulous		Fat Fabulous		1000-lb										
TNT	32	45	245	138	Movie	ClubWorld	FIFA Club Borussia Dortmund vs. Monterrey		Club World (N) (Live)		***** Rush Hour (98) Jackie Chan.							Movie											
TOON	58	79	296	176	Burgers	Burgers	FamilyGuy	FamilyGuy	FamilyGuy	FamilyGuy	FamilyGuy	Club Morty	Rick Morty		Rick Morty		AquaTeen	Chicken	American										
TRUTV	74	48	246	204	MLB Baseball Cleveland Guardians at Chicago Cubs (N) (Live)					MLBClose					Wipeout		Wipeout		Foul Play		Jokes								
TRV	72	67	277	215	Jack and Kelly Osbourne: Night of Terror					Jack Osbourne's					Jack Osbourne's					Jack and Kelly Osbourne: Night of Terror					JackOsbo.				
TVL	41	53	304	106	Raymond		Raymond "Italy"		Raymond		Raymond		(:05) King		(:40) King		(:15) King		(:50) King	(:25) King	Seinfeld								
UNI	26	19	402		A.mar (N)		Karsu, la fuerza de una madre (N)		Noticiero					SaborDe		Deportivo (N) (Live)		Como dice el dicho					Amores...						
USA	39	46	242	105	Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law-SVU "Scourge"		Law-SVU										
VH1	35	66	335	162	6-00) *Money Train (95)		***** The Commuter (18) Liam Neeson.							Basketball Wives		Hip Hop		Hip Hop		Hip Hop									
WE	21	124	260	128	9-1-1 "7.1"					9-1-1 "7.1"					9-1-1 "Awful People"					9-1-1 "Dosed"					S.W.A.T.	S.W.A.T.			
WEA	31	116	362	214	Weather Unfiltered		Weather Unfiltered		Rock Mountain		Rock Mountain		Rock Mountain		Rock Mountain		Rock Mountain		Rock Mountain										