# Summary of Tax Calculation Simplification for KS (Saving \$90 Million/Year) <br> https://taxsimplecenter.net/statetaxsimplification.html (F....KS) 

Summary: KS 3-8 tax brackets (the past 80 years), $48(2 \times 3 \times 8)$ formulas, 6 taxable income ranges and 22-page Withholding Tables can be matched/simplified by 2 brackets/formulas. Tax status is numbered with 1 or 2 . Withholding taxes, payrolls, tax returns, analyses, tax reforms and tax projections can be simplified to reduce related costs from 15 benefits. About $\$ 5$ million is gained with $3.1 \%-5.7 \%$ ( $3 \%$ $4.785 \%-5.7 \%$ for neutral tax revenue change). A checking tool is provided to reduce calculation mistakes. For tax reforms, lawmakers need to adjust only 3 tax rates at the bottom, \$50,000 and top.

1. Basic Question: What tax rates are fair and simple? When 2 tax rates are set, effective (linear) tax rates between the two points with a straight line are fair and simple. Existing flat and curve or step tax rates with less or more brackets are unfair and complex.
(2021 Research Paper at: www.scitcentral.com/documents/be5648da4795008d9893b752b9226c8f.pdf )
2. Tax Simplification, Publication, Benefit and Value: Effective linear and gradual (LG) tax simplification has been developed, which is supported by our 12 publications at http://taxsimplecenter.net/publication.html The LG tax simplification has 15 benefits for lawmakers, companies, taxpayers and department of revenue. Its saved value $\mathbf{\$ 1 0 0}$ million/year is based on 1.6 million tax returns per year in KS. (Page 3)

## 3. FIG. $1 \quad$ Current Tax Rates (A and B) and Simplification (C)

Tax Rate (Current)

## (1) SS Tax Cliff/(2) Property Tax Credit Simplification

| (A) Flat+Curves | (B) Steps (up or down) |
| :---: | :---: |
| (2-7 tax brackets) $100 \%$ | (2-23 brackets) |
|  | Cliff \& Complex |
| 50\% | (2) (1) KS SS Tax Deduction |
| Complex | $\square \quad$ \$1 AGI Diff $\rightarrow$ \$1,300 Tax |
| 50K | 35K 75K Difference (Unfair) |


| (C) Line (up or down) | Conclusion: |
| :--- | :--- |
| (1 bracket) |  |

## 4. KS Tax Simplification $\quad \frac{\text { Yearly taxable income } \div \mathrm{S} \text { is: } \quad \text { Not over } \$ 50,000 \quad \text { Over } \$ 50,000}{\text { Tor }}$

Wherein YTI=yearly taxable income, $\mathrm{S}=$ status ( 2 for married filing joint or 1 for all others), $\mathrm{C}=50,000 \div 1$-st tax rate difference $(0.04785-0.031)=2,967,359$, and $\mathrm{D}=50,000 \times 2$-nd tax rate difference $(0.057-0.04785)=457.5$
$\mathbf{S}=\mathbf{2}: \quad$ : $\mathbf{\$ 2 , 5 0 5}$ plus $\mathbf{5 . 7 \%}$ of excess over $\mathbf{\$ 6 0 , 0 0 0 "}=2,505+0.057(\mathrm{YTI}-60 \mathrm{~K})=0.057$ YTI- $915=(0.057-(915 \div \mathrm{YTI})) \times$ YTI
5. Comparison between Existing System and Tax Calculation Simplification
a) Existing Tax System: Tax Schedules, 22-page Withholding Tables, 8-page Tax Table and tax computations
b) New bill: Only 2 brackets
6. Lawmakers will reduce related political arguments with different tax brackets, TI range and tax rates.
7. Existing Withholding Tables ( $\mathbf{2 2}$ pages) are eliminated and replaced for companies to save $\$ 42$ million/year with 2 brackets if at $\$ 1 /$ payroll/person to cover 11 areas. (Details: Page $5^{* *}$ )
15. Existing two sub tax systems are about 13 months apart. This simplification provides one system to simplify withholding tax, payroll, withholding report, tax return, analysis, reform and projection with the 2 brackets.
16. Other Applications: https://taxsimplecenter.net/uploads/8/3/3/9/83395216/wothers.pdf|

For more information: www.taxsimplecenter.net or questions: johnlee@taxsimplecenter.net or 913-710-0957

KS Tax Calculation Simplification (It is added into the current tax bill SB 30*)
(1) Married individuals filing joint returns.
(F) For tax yearyears 2018, and all tax years thereafter 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022: ........
(G) For tax year 2023, and all tax years thereafter:

If the yearly taxable income $\div S$ is:
The tax rate and tax are:
Not over \$50,000
$((Y T I \div S \div C)+0.03) \times T I$
Over \$50,000 $\qquad$ $(0.057-(D \times S \div Y T I)) \times T I$
Wherein YTI=yearly taxable income, $S=2$ for married individuals filing joint returns or 1 for all other individuals, $Y T I=T I \times F, T I=$ taxable income, $F=$ the number of filing period ( $1,2,4,12,24,26,52$ or 365 on different filing basis), there are two tax rate ranges of 0.03-0.04785-0.057, $C=50,000 \div 1$-st tax rate difference (0.04785-0.03) $=2,801,120$ and $D=50,000 \times 2$-nd tax rate difference $(0.057-0.04785)=457.5$
(2) All other individuals.
(G) Is the same as (1) (G)

* (1) http://kslegislature.org/li_2018/b2017_18/measures/documents/sb30_enrolled.pdf
(2) 3-8 tax brackets in the past 80 years are matched/reduced to 2 . Tax Table or its formula is used (1 option). Companies can use 2 simple formulas to replace existing 22 -page Withholding Tables. Withholding taxes, payrolls, tax returns, analysis, reform, and projection are simplified with the 2 brackets.

Withholding/Income tax $=($ Incomes $\pm$ Adjustments-(Deductions + Exemptions) $\div \mathrm{F}) \times$ Tax rate-Tax credits $\div \mathrm{F}$
(3) Option: Existing 0.031-0.04785 gains tax revenue slightly ( $\sim \$$ million/year by Dept of Revenue). $3.1 \%$ is reduced to $3 \%$ to help low-end incomers to reduce tax rates and taxes slightly without tax revenue reduction for KS. Or the $\$ 5$ million may be used for related applications. For original 0.031-0.04785-0.057, A is changed slightly and B is the same. Its tax rate formula is: (YTI $\div \mathrm{S} \div 2,967,359$ ) +0.031 . For $0.029-0.04785$, its tax rate formula is: $(\mathrm{YTI} \div \mathrm{S} \div 2,652,520)+0.029$.

## Comparison of existing and simplified tax calculation systems ( $\mathrm{S}=1$ or2)

1) Existing Tax Calculation System: Two sub tax systems, 22-page Withholding Tables, 8-page Tax Table 2) - 4) Simplified bill: Two formulas

| $\mathrm{YTI} \div \mathrm{S}$ | 1 ) Existing System | $2) 3.1-5.7 \%$ | $3) 3-5.7 \%$ | $4) 2.9-5.7 \%$ | Rate Difference \#2/\#3/\#4/-\#1 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1,000 | 0.031 | 0.031337 | 0.030357 | 0.029377 | $0.0003 /-0.0006 /-0.0016$ |
| 2,501 | $78 \div 2501=0.031188$ | 0.031843 | 0.030893 | 0.029943 | $0.0006 /-0.0003 /-0.0012$ |
| 3,501 | $109 \div 3501=0.031134$ | 0.03218 | 0.03125 | 0.03032 | $0.0010 / 0.0001 /-0.0008$ |
| 7,001 | $218 \div 7001=0.031138$ | 0.033359 | 0.032499 | 0.031639 | $0.0022 / 0.0014 / 0.0005$ |
| 20,001 | $729 \div 20001=0.03645$ | 0.03774 | 0.03714 | 0.03654 | $0.0013 / 0.0007 / 0.0001$ |
| 30,000 | $1251 \div 30000=0.0417$ | 0.04111 | 0.04071 | 0.04031 | $-0.0006 /-0.0010 /-0.0014$ |
| 40,000 | $1821 \div 40000=0.04553$ | 0.04448 | 0.04428 | 0.04408 | $-0.0011 /-0.0013 /-0.0015$ |
| 50,000 | 0.04785 | 0.04785 | 0.04785 | 0.04785 | $0 / 0 / 0$ |
| 100,000 | 0.052425 | 0.052425 | 0.052425 | 0.052425 | $0 / 0 / 0$ |
| 200,000 | 0.0547125 | 0.0547125 | 0.0547125 | 0.0547125 | $0 / 0 / 0$ |
| 500,000 | 0.056085 | 0.056085 | 0.056085 | 0.056085 | $0 / 0 / 0$ |
| $1,000,000$ | 0.0565425 | 0.0565425 | 0.0565425 | 0.0565425 | $0 / 0 / 0$ |

Figure 2 Comparison of Existing SB 30 and Tax Calculation Simplification (LG) Systems


## Benefits and Value of Tax Calculation Simplification (Saving \$100 Million/Year)

Effective linear and gradual (LG) tax simplification has been developed, which is supported by our 12 publications at http://taxsimplecenter.net/publication.html More tax brackets mean more smooth tax rate changes, complex, more cost and more tax revenue relatively. Less tax brackets mean rough tax rate changes, simple, less cost and less tax revenue relatively. The LG tax simplification can be used to have many benefits for lawmakers, companies, taxpayers and dept of revenue. Its saved value ( $\$ 95$ million/year) is based on 1.6 million tax returns per year.
\#
Benefits
Value

1. Existing 3-8 tax brackets are matched and reduced to $\mathbf{2}$ comparably and kept. Less time/More simple
2. Lawmakers select tax bracket \#, taxable income ranges, tax rates and computations for tax reforms. With this tax simplification, only 3 tax rates are needed for tax reforms. Less time/hustle
3. Simple formulas contributes to Fiscal Note with 3.1-5.7\% (by KS Department of Revenue) $\$ 5$ million
4. Withholding Tables (22 pages) are not needed and replace with 3 simple formulas with filing period ( F ) and status ( S ). If at $\$(1+0.2) /$ person/period ( $1.2 \times 26 \times 1.4$ million) $\quad \$ 43.7$ million (** Page 5)
5. Tax Table (8 pages) or its simple formula (1 option) is used. If ((1+0.5)x1.6 million): $\$ 2.4$ million
6. Combining two existing sub tax systems (4\&5) together without time delay (13 Months): Real \& quick tax
7. One tax credit formula for different (simple or complex) tax credits (including EITC)
( 1 non-refundable and 1 refundable tax credit formulas) If (( $1.5+0.5) \times 1.6$ million):
\$3.2 million
8. Many incomers with standard deductions and credits (50\%) file simple tax returns/tax withholding report and modifications. If ((15+5)×50\%x1.6 million):
\$16 million
9. Postcard ( $1 / 2$ page) tax return form can be used ( $50 \%$ ). If (( $10+4$ ) x $50 \% \times 1.6$ million): $\$ 11.2$ million
10. Tax Status (S) is numbered with 2 for Married Filing Jointly or 1 for All Other Individuals (More detail numbers may be applied for Standard Deductions). If (( $1+0.5$ ) x1.6 million):
\$2.4 million
11. A checking tool of two tax rate ranges ( $3.1 \%-4.785 \%-5.7 \%$ ) is provided to check and reduce tax rate and tax calculation mistakes. If ((2+1)x1.6 million): $\$ 4.8$ million
12. Fraud crime is inspected and reduced by comparing tax returns and tax withholding reports: Less crime
(Value ?)
13. Tax refunds with not over $\$ 100$ are delayed to next-year refunds.

Less time/cost
14. Department of Revenue can process less tax returns during busy tax season and have more time to inspect more tax returns for possible more taxes.

More taxes
(Value ?)
15. The LG tax simplification can be used to simplify calculations of withholding tax, payroll, tax analysis, tax reform, budget and projection with 2 brackets.

Less time/costs
(Value ?)

Total: Less time/hustle, less mistake, less crime, less cost, more tax and $\boldsymbol{\$ 9 0}$ million/year
For more information and questions, contact us at johnlee@taxsimplecenter.net or 913-710-0957.

## Summary for KS Tax Calculation Simplification

Existing KS tax system and its simplification: Existing 22-page Withholding Tables, 48 formulas, 8-page Tax Table and different tax brackets (3-8), which are complex, can be matched and reduced to 2 brackets/formulas to simplify KS tax system, reduce political arguments, eliminate Withholding Tables and save millions of dollars.

New bill can be used to match/reduce existing tax rates with 2 smooth brackets comparably. Two tax rate ranges of $3 \%-4.785 \%-5.7 \%$ can be used as a checking tool to reduce calculation mistakes. A filing period (F) of 365, 52, $26,24,12,4,2$, or 1 and tax status ( S ) \# of 1 or 2 are used to calculate income withholding taxes (with standard deductions, exemptions and credits), payrolls and income taxes. $\mathrm{F}=1$ is for tax returns. The two formulas are used simply. Then companies and Department of Revenue can save time and costs.

Withholding/Income tax=(Incomes $\pm$ Adjustments-(Deductions+Exemptions) $\div$ F) $\times$ Tax rate-Tax credits $\div$ F

## Tax Reform, Analysis, Budget, and Projection:


There are 2 tax rate ranges of 0.03-0.04785-0.057, which can be adjusted for tax revenue and budget. Above a and $b$ are tax return numbers for married filing jointly and $c$ and $d$ are for others with YTI $\div$ S not over and over $\$ 50,000$. Then calculations of withholding taxes, payrolls, tax analysis, reform, and projection can be simplified.

## FORM K-40 KANSAS INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX RETURN

Check one: $\underline{\text { O Married filing separately }} \underline{\text { O Single }} \underline{\text { O Married filing jointly }}$ O Head of household

| Tax Status \# (S) | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Standard deductions (\$) | 3,750 | 3,000 | 7,500 | 5,500 |

Standard exemptions (\$): 2,250/person__; Blind or Disabled:850/person__; 65 or older: $850 /$ person_

Address:

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | Your Name | Your SS\# | Spouse Name | Spouse SS\# | Child \# |  | 1 |
| 2022 |  |  |  |  |  | 2 |  |
| Federal <br> AGI | Modifications | Exemptions | Standard/Itemized <br> deductions | Taxable income <br> (YTI) | Credit: Part <br> resident | Credit: Non <br> resident | 3 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 4 |  |
| YTI $\div$ S | Yearly TI $\div$ S | YTI (E4) | LG tax rate formula | Tax rate check | Tax rate | Tax / Table | 5 |
|  | $0-50,000$ |  | YTI $\div 2,801,120 \div$ S+0.03 | $0.03-0.04785$ |  |  | 6 |
|  | over 50,000 |  | $0.057-457.5 \times S \div$ YTI | $0.04785-0.057$ |  | 7 |  |
| Non-refund <br> tax credits | Tax balance <br> If $<0$, enter 0 | Other taxes | State tax withheld <br> $(W-2 / 1099$ s) | Refundable <br> tax credits | Tax <br> (Refund-) | Tax (Owe) | 8 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 9 |

(1) YTI (E4) $=\mathrm{A} 4 \pm \mathrm{B} 4-\mathrm{C} 4-\mathrm{D} 4$
(2) Tax balance (B9)=Tax-Non-refundable tax credits
(3) Tax (Owe+/Refund-) = B9+C9-D9-E9
(4) Attach necessary documents except
standard deduction/exemption. For tax refund (F9), please fill in:
Tax Return
Barcode

Bank routing\#: $\qquad$ Account \#: $\qquad$ Name $\qquad$
O Checking or O Saving
Bank Name: $\qquad$ Phone \#: $\qquad$
Signature: Your $\qquad$ Spouse $\qquad$ Date $\qquad$
Third-party
preparer name $\qquad$ Address $\qquad$

EIN/SS\# $\qquad$ Phone\# $\qquad$ Date $\qquad$ Signature $\qquad$

## Some Confused Questions and Answers

We have done our tax simplification research with 12 publications. Many questions and answers have been discussed at http://taxsimplecenter.net/publication.html It has 15 benefits (values: $\$ 95$ million/year) for KS, which is based on 1.6 million tax returns/year. Here are answers for some confused questions:

## 1. Formulas in the new bill are simpler than existing formula? (Yes)

Existing 22-page Withholding Tables and $48(2 \times 3 \times 8)$ formulas with $3-8$ tax brackets can be eliminated and replaced with the 2 simple formulas/brackets. One existing formula is: Tax $=2505+0.057$ (YTI-60,000), which is converted to $0.057 \mathrm{YTI}-915=(0.057-457.5 \times \mathrm{S} \div \mathrm{YTI}) \times$ YTI. We add tax status number $(\mathrm{S}=2$ or 1$)$ for tax simplification. Also a tool is used to check and reduce calculation mistakes. Basic math knowledge is good enough. Another linear formula (the most fair and simple) with smooth tax rate changes is used to match and reduce existing 2-7 tax brackets to 1 with $50 \%-86 \%$ reduction.

| Two tax rate formulas for taxpayers | Tax rate check | Taxable income (TI $\div \mathbf{S}$ ) |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\# 1)$ | YTI $\div \mathrm{S} \div \mathrm{A}+0.03$ | $0.03-0.04785$ | $0-50,000$ (or using existing Tax Table) |
| $\# 2)^{*}$ | $0.057-\mathrm{B} \times \mathrm{S} \div \mathrm{YTI}$ | $0.04785-0.057$ | Over 50,000 |
|  | ( $* \# 2$ formula is the same as the two existing formulas in different formats. ) |  |  |

$\mathrm{YTI}=$ yearly taxable income, $\mathrm{S}=2$ for married filing joint or 1 for all other individuals, $\mathrm{A}=50,000 \div 1$-st tax rate difference $(0.04785-0.03)=2,801,120$ and $B=50,000 \times 2$-nd tax rate difference $(0.057-0.04785)=457.5$

## 2. Tax rates in the new bill are fair?

(1) Existing tax rate change speeds are changeable and unfair and tax rates are unsmooth/rough. Some people, who should pay more slightly, pay less. Others, who should pay less slightly, pay more for not over $\$ 50,000$. For over $\$ 50,000$, tax rates are the same;
(2) Effective (linear) and simple tax rates have a straight line, which is the most fair and simple with stable tax rate speed. Existing flat and curve or step tax rates with less or more tax brackets are unfair and complex (FIG 1); (3) More tax brackets mean more smooth tax rates, complicated, more cost and more tax revenue relatively. Less tax brackets mean rough tax rates, simple, less cost and less tax revenue relatively; and
(4) KS has 3-8 brackets during the past 80 years, which can be matched and reduced to 2 .

## 3. How do we have neutral tax revenue or use the $\$ 5$ million?

(1) Existing $3.1 \%-4.785 \%-5.7 \%$ tax rate ranges are reduced to $3 \%$ (or x.x $\%$ ) $-4.785 \%-5.7 \%$ to neutral tax revenue change, which will help low-end incomers to reduce tax rates and taxes slightly;
(2) When 3 tax brackets are raised to prior 8 (3-8) brackets, more tax revenue is raised at higher cost; or
(3) We can also keep $3.1 \%-4.785 \%-5.7 \%$ ( 2 brackets) and use the $\$ 5$ million for related applications.

## 4. Table and/or Formula?

Existing Tax Table or its formula ( 1 option) can be used. Some people may still prefer to use Tax Table. There is no or almost no tax rate and tax difference between existing Tax Table and its formula.
** Existing 22-page Withholding Tables and $48(2 \times 3 \times 8)$ formulas can be eliminated/replaced by 2 simple formulas for companies and Department of Revenue to save time and costs for withholding taxes. After the formulas are set in Excel, Spreadsheet or software, related calculations can be repeated simply. Related value of $\$ 43.7$ million ( $=1.2 \times 26 \times 1.4$ millions, 26 is biweekly filing and 1.4 millions are employment $\#$ ) is from (1) making the 22 page table, (2) publication, (3) checking tax numbers under 0-10 allowances, (4) inputs, (5) using calculation formulas for relatively high incomes and allowances >10, (6) filings, (7) checking mistakes, (8) tax recalculations, (9) software, and (10) data analysis.

Withholding/Income Tax=(Incomes-Adjustments-(Deductions + Exemptions) $\div \mathrm{F}) \times$ Tax rate - Tax credits $\div \mathrm{F}$

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