



KHA's Capitol Comments
January 22, 2024

House Health Committee Hears Update on Mental Health Intervention Teams

Today, the House Health and Human Services Committee, chaired by Representative Brenda Landwehr (R-Wichita), received a program update from John Calvert, director of the Safe and Secure Schools Unit for the Kansas State Department of Education. The presentation focused on K-12 students and helping families navigate mental health services and linking them with the existing statewide behavioral health system and resources within the mental health provider network. The committee heard from state liaisons in school systems and how they work closely with foster contractors. The committee heard an overview of the funding structure of the program in 90 school districts with 182 liaisons and 5,732 students served, including 477 foster students.

The committee will meet again tomorrow to hold a hearing on [House Bill 2484](#), enacting the Social Work Licensure Compact to provide interstate practice privileges for social workers.

Senate Federal and State Affairs Works Bill Dealing with Vacancies in Statewide Offices

Today, the Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee, chaired by Senator Mike Thompson (R-Shawnee), recommended passage of [Senate Bill 249](#). The bill allows statewide parties to hold a delegate convention to select a successor in the office of state treasurer and office of commissioner of insurance. The committee made one amendment to include a Senate confirmation of the selections.

The committee recommended the bill favorably for passage as amended. The legislation will now go before the full Senate.

Introduction of Bills

[Senate Bill 373](#) – Concerning lobbying; prohibiting the use of public money for lobbying activities – By Committee on Federal and State Affairs

[House Bill 2565](#) – Concerning health professions and practices; relating to the regulation of dentists; Kansas Dental Board; requiring that treating dentist information be given to patients upon request; prohibiting agreements that limit a patient's ability to file complaints; eliminating the minimum personal presence requirements of the licensee in a dental office using the licensee's name – By Committee on Health and Human Services Requested by Representative Buehler on behalf of Association of Dental Support Organizations