



KHA's Capitol Comments
February 29, 2024

House and Senate Health Committees Hear Bills

Today, the Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee, chaired by Senator Beverly Gossage (R-Eudora), held an informational hearing on [House Bill 2791](#). The bill enacts the Forbidding Abuse of Child Transitions Act, restricts the use of state funds to promote gender transitions, prohibits health care professionals from treating children whose gender identity is inconsistent with the child's sex, authorizes a civil cause of action against health care professionals for providing such treatments, authorizes professional discipline against a physician who performs such treatment, prohibits professional liability insurance from covering damages for health care providers that provide gender transition treatment to children and adds violations of the act to the definition of unprofessional conduct for physicians and nurses. The hearing was informational as the bill has not yet passed the House chamber.

The committee heard from the following conferees:

- Chloe Kohl, an individual who formerly transitioned
- Pamela Garfield, Social Worker
- Jamie Reed, Former Missouri clinic worker
- Britany Jones, Kansas Family Voice
- Dr. Ivan Abdouch, Medical Doctor

The committee also heard from opponent testimony from:

- Iridescent Riffel, co-chair of Equality Kansas
- Reverend Caroline Dean, InterFaith Action
- D.C. Hiegert, ACLU of Kansas
- Cat Poland, Free Range Writer and Activist
- Amanda Mogoi, MSN, APRN, FNP-C

The House Health and Human Services Committee also held hearing on [House Bill 2791](#). The committee heard from similar conferees in the House Health and Human Services Committee.

Senate Ways and Means Committee Makes Further Changes to KDHE-Health Budget

Today, the Senate Ways and Means Committee, chaired by Senator Rick Billinger (R-Goodland), discussed the Kansas Department of Health and Environment budget and added a proviso limiting the federally qualified health center from using sensitive patient information for non-medical purposes including, by not limited to lobbying, expressing advocacy or communications to affect election turnout. The committee passed the motion and also deleted the funding for Medicaid expansion. The committee recorded no votes from Senator Pat Pettey (D-Kansas City), Senator Jeff Pittman (D-Leavenworth) and Senator Carolyn McGinn (R-Sedgwick).

The committee also worked on the Kansas Health Care Stabilization Fund and the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services budgets. The committee will continue to discuss the mega-budget in the coming days.

House Passes Bills

Today, the House Chamber worked on bills including the following:

[House Bill 2358](#) – Permits mid-level practitioners to provide medical certification to attest to an individual's cause of death to file a death certificate. The bill passed on a vote of [106-9](#).

[House Bill 2790](#) – Transfers registration requirements and related compliance oversight and enforcement authority for professional employer organizations from the commissioner of insurance to the secretary of labor, grants the secretary responsibility over the Professional Employer Organization Fee Fund and ensures welfare benefit plans offered by professional employer organizations to employees and covered employees are treated as a single employer welfare benefit plan for purposes of state law. The bill passed on a vote of [114-1](#).

The House will return next week for further floor action.