



KHA's Capitol Comments
March 8, 2024

House Appropriations Completes Budget and Sees Hospital Transparency Bill Introduced

Last night, the House Appropriations Committee, chaired by Rep. Troy Waymaster (R-Bunker Hill), met to finalize details on their budget. The bill, now in [House Bill 2273](#), was recommended favorably for passage after they made the following final adjustments:

- Adding \$2.5 million to all funds, including \$1 million in State General Funds, to increase Medicaid OB-GYN codes by 15 percent
- A proviso saying the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts shall make expenditures to reduce licensing and renewals by 15 percent
- Adding \$600,000 for respite care funding for Alzheimer's disease up to \$1,000 per person with 10 percent going to the area agencies on aging for administration
- Including language not to add to the 1.8 billion currently in the state Rainy Day Fund for fiscal year 25 and recognizing they will add half of that to a higher interest yield account
- Allowing the Kansas Department of Agriculture to audit and evaluate water banks
- Adding \$500,000 to help Jewish places of worship have security due to increases in anti-semitic activity
- Allowing the Friends of Cedar Crest to commission a quote from developers on upgrading the governor's residence
- Kansas Highway Patrol Pay Plan – 10 percent adjustment for sworn law enforcement officers and dispatchers
- Kansas Bureau of Investigation – 10 percent adjustment for sworn officers and forensic scientists
- Funding for elevators for the Kansas State School for the Deaf
- Moving \$150,000 from the Attract Professional Kansas Sports Teams to the U.S. Adaptive Open being held at Sand Creek Golf Course
- Approximately \$1 million for pay for parole officers at the Kansas Department of Corrections
- Grant for shooting teams for Air and National Guard adjutant generals
- Allowing DeSoto school district to sell countryside learning center
- Scholarship funds for the Full Circle Drug Prevention and Recovery Program
- Housing Resource Center – adding to develop housing plans for non-profits

The budget is complete, and the bill runs on the House floor.

The committee also saw a bill introduction made by Rep. Bill Sutton (R-Gardner) on legislation related to consumer protection related to hospital price transparency.

Next Week's Schedule

Next week will be a flurry of activities with budget bills likely to run across the floors of the House and Senate. Committees will continue to meet to hear exempt bills and bills coming to the second chamber.

Monday, Mar. 11

House Health and Human Services – 1:30 p.m. – Room 112N

Roundtable discussion: [House Bill 2793](#) – Prohibits health care providers from performing health care services on minors without parental consent

Tuesday, Mar. 12

Senate Public Health and Welfare – 8:30 a.m. – Room 142S

Hearing: [House Bill 2547](#) – Authorizes schools to maintain certain emergency medication kits and to administer such medication in emergencies

[House Bill 2579](#) – Authorizes the Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services to distribute non-prescription over-the-counter medications

[House Bill 2784](#) – Transfers authority for certification of continuing care retirement communities from the Kansas Insurance Department to the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services; lowers the nursing facility provider assessment for continuing care retirement communities

Senate Ways and Means – 10:30 a.m. – Room 548S

Hearing: [House Bill 2623](#) – Updates the Veterans Claims Assistance Program to include references to Veterans Affairs medical centers and cross-accreditation requirements

House Appropriations – 9:00 a.m. – Room 112N

Hearing: [House Bill 2362](#) – Removes the state fire marshal's approval as a requirement for licensure or renewal of licensure for disability service providers and facilities

House Federal and State Affairs – 9:00 a.m. – Room 346S

Hearing: [House Bill 2809](#) – Creates the Every Mom Matters Act requiring the state treasurer to contract with eligible organizations to provide information and support services to pregnant women and parents considering adoption

[House Bill 2813](#) – Creates the crime of coercion to obtain an abortion and provides enhanced criminal penalties for offenses committed with the intent to coerce a woman to obtain an abortion

House Commerce, Labor and Economic Development – 1:30 p.m. – Room 346S

Hearing: [House Bill 2818](#) – Provides for a legislative review process and criteria when considering bills proposing new or additional occupational regulation, requires the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules and Regulations to review such bills and authorizes the joint committee to direct regulatory entities or to contract with a consulting firm to provide a report to the legislature to inform the legislature's consideration of such bill

House Transportation – 1:30 p.m. – Room 582N

Hearing: [Senate Bill 272](#) – Increases the transfer from the State Highway Fund to the Public Use General Aviation Airport Development Fund

Wednesday, Mar. 13

Senate Public Health and Welfare – 8:30 a.m. – Room 142S

Hearing: [House Bill 2751](#) – Authorizes the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services to condition or restrict a disability service provider license, grants the secretary authority to grant regulation waivers unrelated to health and safety and authorizes correction orders and civil fines to be appealed to the secretary

Senate Financial Institutions and Insurance – 9:30 a.m. – Room 546S

Hearing: [House Bill 2711](#) – Increases the amount of KPERs retirement compensation subject to the statutory employer contribution rate to the first \$40,000 earned in a calendar year, providing a KPERs working after retirement exemption for retirees employed by a community developmental disability organization in a licensed professional nurse, licensed practical nurse or direct support position and increases the working after retirement earnings limit for members of the Kansas police and firemen's retirement

Senate Commerce – 10:30 a.m. – Room 546S

Hearing: [House Bill 2745](#) – Provides military spouses of active military servicemembers shall be exempted from all occupational licensing, registration and certification fees

House Local Government (Mon-Wed) – 9:00 a.m. – Room 281N

Hearing: [Senate Bill 384](#) – Allows ambulances in rural communities to operate with only the minimum personnel required by state law

House Judiciary – 3:30 p.m. – Room 582N

Hearing: [House Bill 2805](#) – Continues in existence certain exceptions to the disclosure of public records under the Open Records Act

Thursday, Mar. 14

Senate Public Health and Welfare – 8:30 a.m. – Room 142S

Hearing: [House Bill 2453](#) – Enacts the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact to provide interstate practice privileges for dentists and dental hygienists

Senate Judiciary – 10:30 a.m. – Room 346S

Hearing: [House Bill 2487](#) – Provides immunity from prosecution for certain drug crimes when persons seek or provide medical assistance related to the use of a controlled substance

Senate Education – 1:30 p.m. – Room 144S

Hearing: [House Bill 2645](#) – Amends the Nursing Service Scholarship Program to remove limits on the amount of awards and number of scholarships, removes the sponsorship requirement, modifies the interest rate terms for repayment obligations and abolishes the Nursing Service Scholarship Review Committee

[House Bill 2646](#) – Modifies the financial limitations on awards under the Kansas Hero's Scholarship Act and broadens the eligibility requirements for such awards

House Appropriations – 9:00 a.m. – Room 112N

Update: Docking State Office Building and Kansas Department of Health and Environment Lab – Frank Burnam, director, Office of Facility and Property Management, Kansas Department of Administration

Friday, Mar. 15

Joint Committee on Administrative Rules and Regulations – 9:00 a.m. – Room 218N

Hearing:

- Department of Labor, Division of Workers Compensation
- Department of Revenue, Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control
- Kansas Department of Health and Environment
- Kansas State Department of Education
- Office of Secretary of State
- State Board of Mortuary Arts

KHA Bill Tracker

The [Kansas Hospital Association Bill Tracker](#) is designed to keep you up-to-date on current legislation. KHA will update and share this document weekly while the legislators are in session.

Introduction of Bills

[Senate Bill 536](#) – Concerns taxation; relates to the local Ad Valorem Tax Reduction Fund; requires political subdivisions to adopt a budget that remains at or below revenue neutral and uses funds to reduce property tax to receive fund distributions – By Committee on Assessment and Taxation

[Senate Bill 540](#) – Concerns the federal 340B Drug Pricing Program; imposes restrictions concerning the federal 340B Drug Pricing Program; enacts the Defense of Affordable Prescriptions Act to prohibit manufacturer interference relating to a 340B drug – By Committee on Assessment and Taxation