



KHA's Capitol Comments
January 17, 2025

Next Week's Schedule

With a historically fast start to the legislative session, next week will already see the first of the agency budget report outs to the appropriations committees. While Monday will be a holiday, legislative committees are likely to jump further into bill hearings and testimony on Tuesday.

Monday, Jan. 20

No Session

Tuesday, Jan. 21

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

Presentation: Kansas Department of Health and Environment

Senate Government Efficiency – 9:30 a.m. – Room 144S

Briefing by staff: constitutional basis of legislative power

Senate Commerce – 1:30 p.m. – Room 346S

Joint meeting with House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development Update: Kansas Department of Labor – unemployment system rollout, update and agenda

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

Update: Kansas Fights Addiction Grant Program

Senate Utilities – 1:30 p.m. – Room 548S

Presentation: Kansas 911 system – Sherry Massey

Hearing: [Senate Bill 11](#) – Requiring the Kansas 911 Coordinating Council to establish requirements for 911 telecommunicators to receive training and continuous education in telecommunicator-cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

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

Informational briefing: Kansas Fights Addiction – Pat George, chair

Budget report out: Chairperson Steven Howe – Higher Education Budget, Kansas Behavioral Science Regulatory Board, Kansas Board of Healing Arts

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

Presentation: Kansas Hospital Association, Kansas Medical Society, Silver Haired Legislature

House Welfare Reform – 1:30 p.m. – Room 152S

Presentation: Select State Legislative Welfare Reforms – Iraida Orr, principal research analyst, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Hearing: Reorganization bill, number to be determined

House Social Services Budget – 3:30 p.m. – Room 152S

Budget Hearing: Kansas State Board of Nursing, Office of Veterans Services and Health Care Stabilization Fund

Hearing continuation: Recommendations for Board of Mortuary Arts, Kansas Guardianship Program, Board of Pharmacy and Child Advocate

Presentation: Overview of KORA – Kansas Open Records Act and KOMA – Kansas Open Meeting Acts

Wednesday, Jan. 22

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

Update: Kansas Department for Children and Families

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

Overview and update: Kansas Public Employees Retirement System – Alan Conroy, executive director

Senate Government Efficiency – 9:30 a.m. – Room 144S

Presentation – efficiency proposals: Office of the Secretary of State

Presentation – agency operations Kansas insurance commissioner

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

Update – broadband expenditures: Kansas Department of Commerce, Kansas Department of Transportation, representative of the telecommunications industry

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

Budget report out: Chairperson Avery Anderson, Transportation and Public Safety budget – Emergency Medical Services Board

House Education – 1:30 p.m. – Room 18N

Cardiac Emergency Response Plan Update: Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Lainey Faulkner, director, Bureau of Health Promotions

Informational hearing: Importance of automated external defibrillator devices, American Heart Association, Kari Rinker, region sr. state government relations lead

House Social Services Budget – 3:30 p.m. – Room 152S

Budget Hearing: Larned State Hospital, Osawatomie State Hospitals, Parsons and Kansas Neurological Institute, Intellectual Disability State Hospitals

Hearing continuation: Recommendations for Kansas State Board of Nursing, Office of Veterans Services and Health Care Stabilization Fund

House Insurance – 3:30 pm (Mon-Wed) – Room 218N

Informational briefing: Procurement of coordinated care organizations and pediatric critical care medicine

House Transportation and Public Safety Budget – 3:30 p.m. – Room 118N

Budget Hearing: Kansas 911 Coordinating Council

Thursday, Jan. 24

Senate Government Efficiency – 9:30 a.m. – Room 144S

Overview of past efficiency audits and studies: Kansas Legislative Division of Post Audit

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

Overview and update: Kansas Insurance Department, Vicki Schmidt, insurance commissioner, informational hearing: discretion for the insurance commissioner to lower fees and the elimination of the insurance agent appointment renewal fee, reduction of appointed members to regulatory boards that are under the jurisdiction of the insurance commissioner

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

Budget report out by Chairperson David Buehler, Social Services Budget – Kansas Board of Pharmacy

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

Presentation: InterHab, Kansas Nursing Homes, Children's Advocacy Centers of Kansas

House Social Services Budget – 3:30 p.m. – Room 152S

Budget Hearing: Kansas Department for Children and Families

Hearing continuation: Recommendations for Larned State Hospital and Osawatomie State Hospital, and Parsons and Kansas Neurological Institute Intellectual Disability State Hospitals

House Transportation and Public Safety Budget – 3:30 p.m. – Room 118N

Budget Hearing: Kansas Fire Marshal

Friday, Jan. 25

House Insurance

Morning Tour of Optum Rx in Overland Park

House General Government Budget – 3:30 p.m. – Room 281N

Budget Hearing: Kansas Insurance Department

Budget Hearing: Kansas Department of Labor Department

Budget Hearing: Kansas Public Employee Retirement System

Recommendations: Kansas Insurance Department, Kansas Department of Labor, KPERS

House Social Services Budget – 3:30 p.m. – Room 152S

Hearing continuation: Public testimony for Kansas Department for Children and Families

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 14](#) by Committee on Ways and Means – Concerning the state budget; providing for a continuous budget until amended, lapsed or eliminated by the legislature; temporary reallocations

[Senate Bill 16](#) by Committee on Federal and State Affairs – Concerning financial services; prohibiting discrimination by financial services companies based on social credit score; requiring registered investment advisers to obtain written consent from clients before investing client money in mutual funds, equity funds, companies and financial institutions that engage in ideological boycotts

[Senate Bill 19](#) by Committee on Public Health and Welfare – Concerning public health; relating to medical care; enacting the Conscientious Right to Refuse Act; prohibiting discrimination against individuals who refuse certain medical interventions and creating a civil cause of action against entities who discriminate based upon such medical care refusal; revoking the authority of the secretary of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to order individuals to isolate or quarantine and impose penalties for violations thereof

[Senate Bill 23](#) by Committee on Financial Institutions and Insurance – Concerning insurance; relating to unfair and deceptive acts or practices; requiring agents and insurers to respond to inquiries from the commissioner of insurance within 14 calendar days; authorizing certain rebate pilot programs to exceed one year in duration

[Senate Bill 25](#) by Committee on Assessment and Taxation – Concerning insurance; relating to property and casualty insurance; enacting the Insurance Savings Account Act; allowing individuals and corporations to establish insurance savings accounts with certain financial institutions; providing eligible expenses, requirements and restrictions for such accounts; requiring the secretary of revenue to adopt certain rules and regulations; granting nonexclusive marketing authority to the state commissioner of insurance; establishing addition and subtraction modifications under the Kansas Income Tax Act

[Senate Bill 27](#) by Committee on Financial Institutions and Insurance – Concerning insurance; relating to the powers, duties and responsibilities of the commissioner; eliminating the requirement that the commissioner submit certain reports to the governor; removing certain specific entities from the definition of person for the purpose of enforcing insurance law

[House Bill 2015](#) by Committee on Welfare Reform, Requested by Representative Averkamp – Concerning public assistance; relating to food assistance; directing the secretary for the Kansas Department for Children and Families to request a waiver from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program that would allow the state to prohibit purchase of candy and soft drinks with food assistance

[House Bill 2023](#) by Committee on Elections, Requested by Representative Waggoner – Concerning elections; relating to election crimes; creating the crime of interference with an election official; providing penalties for violations thereof

[House Bill 2024](#) by Committee on Taxation, Requested by Representative Hoheisel – Concerning income taxation; enacting the Fighting Chance for Firefighters Act; providing a tax credit for firefighters who incur unreimbursed medical expenses for screening for occupation-related cancer

[House Bill 2027](#) by Committee on Welfare Reform, Requested by Representative Averkamp – Concerning public assistance; reorganizing subsections of the public assistance statute; updating cross-references