



KHA's Capitol Comments
February 25, 2025

Senate Public Health and Welfare Meets on Medicaid Inspector General Reappointment

Today, the Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee, chaired by Senator Beverly Gossage (R-Eudora), held a hearing on the reappointment of the Medicaid Inspector General Steven Anderson.

The committee asked if the agency would look into fraud by the managed care organizations. Anderson indicated they are currently working on audits in that area. The committee sent a motion to approve and consent to the reappointment of the Medicaid inspector general to the full Senate. The full Senate will vote on the reappointment.

The committee also held a hearing on [House Bill 2068](#), enacting the Cosmetology Compact to provide interstate practice privileges. Conferees testifying in support included:

- William Wilk, Kansas Chamber of Commerce
- Lt. Col. Keith Marshall, Adjutant General's Department
- Michelle Richard, Department of Defense
- Leslie Rose, Future of the Beauty Industry Coalition

The committee will meet again tomorrow.

Senate Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee Hears Legislation

Today, the Senate Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee, chaired by Senator Brenda Dietrich (R-Topeka), held hearings on legislation, including:

- [House Bill 2043](#) requires agents and insurers to respond to inquiries from the commissioner of insurance within 14 calendar days rather than the current 15 business days and authorizes certain rebate pilot programs to exceed one year in duration. Eric Turek, Kansas Insurance Department, testified on the need to increase the current timeframe when it concerns consumer complaints. He highlighted that Kansas was one of the first states in the portal and testified that they believe 14 days is a good balance. He testified that this conflicts with other statutes related to examinations and accreditation standards. Neutral testimony came from Marlee Carpenter, Kansas Association of Property and Casualty Insurance Company, who expressed concerns with language added in the House. Carpenter suggested 15 business days for general inquiries from the insurance commissioner but 14 calendar days for a public inquiry.
- [House Bill 2050](#) authorizes the commissioner of insurance to set the amount of certain fees and requires the publication of certain fees in the *Kansas Register*. The committee heard proponent testimony from Eric Turek, Kansas Insurance Department.
- [House Bill 2048](#) eliminates the requirement that the commissioner submit certain reports to the governor and removes certain specific entities from the definition of a person for the purpose of enforcing insurance law. Eric Turek, Kansas Insurance Department testified as a proponent.

The committee will meet again tomorrow.

Senate Ways and Means Receives Briefing on House Budget Bill

Today, the Senate Ways and Means Committee, chaired by Senator Rick Billinger (R-Goodland), received a briefing on [House Bill 2007](#), as amended, the House budget bill.

The committee heard from the Kansas legislative research staff how to read the budget summaries from which the committee will work and got an update on each agency adjustments made by the House during budget deliberations.

The Senators asked staff questions. The committee will continue the budget debate through next week, with public testimony for each agency to be conducted in writing. The Senate committee will target March 13. Senator Michael Fagg (R-El Dorado) will oversee social services budgets, which will be reviewed by the full Ways and Means Committee.

KHA Bill Tracker

The [KHA Bill Tracker](#) keeps you up-to-date on current legislation. KHA will update and share this document daily while the legislators are in session.