



KHA's Capitol Comments
March 4, 2025

Senate Public Health and Welfare Hears and Works Bills

Today, the Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee, chaired by Senator Beverly Gossage (R-Eudora), held hearings on the following:

- [House Bill 2069](#) enacts the School Psychologist Licensure Compact to provide interstate practice privileges for school psychologists
- [House Bill 2070](#) enacts the Dietitian Licensure Compact to provide interstate practice privileges for dietitians

The committee also worked the following bills [House Bill 2027](#) reorganizes subsections of the public assistance statute.

The committee recommended favorably for passage.

The committee will meet again tomorrow to hear confirmations, hold hearings on bills and work bills.

Senate Federal and State Affairs Hears Campaign Finance Bill

Today, the Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee, chaired by Senator Mike Thompson (R-Shawnee), held a hearing on [Senate Bill 177](#). The legislation increases limits for campaign contributions based on the consumer price index and eliminates limits on contributions to the party. The committee heard from only one proponent conferee, Josh Ney with Kriegshauser Ney Law Group.

Senate Ways and Means Receives Updates on KDADS Budget

Today, the Senate Ways and Means Committee, chaired by Senator Rick Billinger (R-Goodland), heard updates on the budget bill specific to the Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services. The committee heard from Secretary Laura Howard, and Deputy Secretaries Scott Brunner and other agency staff.

The committee also heard from Secretary Adam Proffitt regarding the budget of the Department of Administration.

The committee will meet again tomorrow for updates on the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

House Welfare Reform Received Update on Medicaid

Today, the House Welfare Reform Committee, chaired by Representative Francis Averkamp (R-St. Marys), heard an update on the state Medicaid finances.

The Kansas Legislative Research Department staff presented a chart highlighting major Medicaid Program expenditures and State General Fund expenditures for Medicaid in addition to the federal match of these programs by year from 2015 through the estimated 2026 budget recommendations. The committee also received a list of legislative additions since 2019.

Both KLRD staff and Medicaid Director Christine Osterlund answered committee questions about the some of the following topics:

- Telemedicine
- Care deserts
- Health Care Provider Assessment
- Changes at the federal level
- Medicaid unwinding
- MCO contracting and capitation rates
- Prior authorization and health care costs
- Health metrics for population health and the Medicaid Program
- Eligibility changes

House Health Hears and Passes Bills

Today, the House Health and Human Services Committee, chaired by Representative Will Carpenter (R-El Dorado), held a hearing on [House Bill 2236](#). The legislation establishes a mental health intervention team program in the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services in state statute and provides incentives for coordination between school districts, qualified schools, and mental health intervention team providers.

The committee also worked the following bills:

- [Senate Bill 82](#) deals with the rural emergency hospital bill. The committee made a technical amendment to the enactment date and recommended it favorably for passage. This technical amendment allows the bill to go to a conference committee.
- [Senate Bill 193](#) exempts law enforcement agencies that do not provide emergency opioid antagonists pursuant to the statewide protocol from the requirement to procure a physician medical director. The committee made a technical amendment to the enactment date and recommended it favorably for passage.

The committee will meet again tomorrow.

House Votes for Campaign Finance Change

Today, the Kansas House voted on [House Bill 2054](#), which increases limits on certain campaign contributions and eliminates such limits on contributions to party committees. The bill passed the House on a vote of [77-46](#).

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.

Introduction of Bills

[Senate Bill 281](#) by the Committee on Ways and Means – Concerning the state treasurer; relating to Tax-Advantaged Savings Programs; establishing the Kansas Postsecondary Education Savings Account and Kansas ABLE Savings Account Grant Incentive Program; authorizing transfers from the State General Fund for such program; eliminating the Low-Income Family Postsecondary Savings Accounts Incentive Program; establishing the Kansas Postsecondary Education Savings Account and ABLE Savings Account Grant Incentive Trust Fund

[Senate Bill 282](#) by the Committee on Assessment and Taxation – Concerning retirement and pensions; relating to the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System; enacting the Kansas Retirement Investment and Savings Plan Act; establishing terms, conditions and requirements related thereto; providing for the plan document, membership elections, benefits, contributions, distributions and prospective plan changes by the legislature; authorizing an employer contribution rate to amortize the actuarial costs of the defined benefit plan; directing the pooled money investment board to loan moneys to provide startup and related administrative costs of the plan upon approval of the Kansas Finance Council; creating the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System Defined Contribution Fund

[Senate Bill 283](#) by the Committee on Assessment and Taxation – Concerning taxation; relating to income tax; decreasing income tax rates for individuals; discontinuing income, premium and privilege tax credits of the High Performance Incentive Program and the Kansas Affordable Housing Tax Credit Act; repealing tax credits relating to abandoned well plugging, agritourism liability insurance, assistive technology contributions, declared disaster capital investment, environmental compliance, owners promoting employment across Kansas and swine facility improvement; relating to withholding tax; discontinuing benefits of the Promoting Employment Across Kansas Act; discontinuing the crediting of certain amounts to the Job Creation Program Fund

[Senate Bill 284](#) by the Committee on Federal and State Affairs – Concerning prescription drugs; relating to the federal 340B Drug Pricing Program; enacting the Defense of Drug Delivery Act to prohibit manufacturer interference relating to 340B drug distribution

[Senate Bill 286](#) by the Committee on Federal and State Affairs – Concerning the state governmental ethics law; relating to the definitions of lobbying and lobbyist; providing for a new definition of lobbying client

[Senate Bill 287](#) by the Committee on Federal and State Affairs – Prohibiting law enforcement agencies or officers from assisting with or participating in immigration enforcement by the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement in places of worship, schools and hospitals

[House Bill 2396](#) by the Committee on Taxation, requested by Representative A. Smith – Concerning property taxation; relating to property tax revenues of taxing jurisdictions; authorizing the use of a protest petition to limit funding of a taxing jurisdiction by property tax revenues above a certain amount; establishing the Acknowledging Stewardship of Tax Revenue and Appropriations Fund and authorizing certain transfers from the State General Fund to qualifying cities and counties; eliminating the revenue neutral rate requirements by taxing subdivisions and the Taxpayer Notification Costs Fund

[House Bill 2397](#) by the Committee on Federal and State Affairs, requested by Representative Bryce on behalf of Representative W. Carpenter – Concerning health and health care; increasing state financial assistance to local health departments under certain circumstances

[House Bill 2399](#) by the Committee on Federal and State Affairs, requested by Representative Bryce on behalf of Representative W. Carpenter – Concerning health and health care; related to newborn screening; establishing an advance universal newborn screening program; providing for the reimbursement of certain treatment services; authorizing the secretary of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to specify conditions included in screenings; extending the transfer of moneys to the Kansas Newborn Screening Fund