



KHA's Capitol Comments
March 6, 2025

Senate Public Health and Welfare Hears and Works Items Before Them

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

- [House Bill 2170](#) designates the first week of February as Kansas Burn Awareness Week
- [House Bill 2307](#) transfers power to oversee certain pre- and post-natal condition awareness programs from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to the Kansas Council on Developmental Disabilities

The committee took final action on [House Bill 2075](#). The legislation requires a permanency hearing for a child in the custody of the secretary to be held within nine months from such child's removal from the home. The committee made a technical modification and recommended the amended bill as favorable for passage.

The committee also approved the nominations for Maureen Mahoney and Don Hall. The nominations will now go to the full Senate.

Senate Federal and State Affairs Hears E-Verify Bill

Today, the Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee, chaired by Senator Mike Thompson (R-Shawnee), held a hearing on [Senate Bill 196](#). The legislation requires business entities and public employers to register and use the e-verify programs for employment purposes and prohibits income tax deductions for wages and remuneration paid to unauthorized aliens.

Proponents:

- Kris Kobach, Kansas Attorney General
- Andrew Good, Numbers USA

Opponents:

- The Kansas Chamber of Commerce, the League of Kansas Municipalities
- Kansas Bar Association
- Manhattan, Emporia, Topeka and Lawrence Chambers of Commerce

Senate Judiciary Hears Constitutional Amendment on Rules and Regulations

Today, the Senate Judiciary Committee, chaired by Senator Kellie Warren (R-Leawood), held a hearing on [House Concurrent Resolution 5008](#). The legislation proposes a constitutional amendment to provide for legislative oversight of the rules and regulations adopted by the executive branch agencies and officials.

Proponent testimony was submitted by the following:

- Amy Siple, APRN, FNP, GS-C
- Eric Stafford, Kansas Chamber of Commerce
- Kansas Cooperative Council
- Kansas Bankers Association
- Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce
- Kansas Grain and Feed Association
- Opportunity Solutions Project
- Private Citizens

The committee will meet again next week.

House Health and Human Services Works Provider Assessment Bill

[House Bill 2250](#) allows an increase in the provider assessment of up to 6 percent and allows some Critical Access Hospitals to participate in the program. Today, Today, the House Health and Human Services Committee, chaired by Will Carpenter (R-El Dorado), added the contents of House Bill 2250 into House Sub for Senate Bill 126. House Sub for Senate Bill 126, formerly the Physician Assistant Compact Bill, will now include the following bills in addition to House Bill 2250.

- [House Bill 2386](#) updates income eligibility requirements for the Kansas Children's Health Insurance Program
- [House Bill 2397](#) increases state financial assistance for local health departments under certain circumstances
- [House Bill 2399](#) establishes an advanced universal newborn screening program, provides for the reimbursement of certain treatment services and increases the transfer of moneys to the Kansas Newborn Screening Fund. The committee amended the language to allow mid-level practitioners to be able to oversee newborn screenings.

The committee recommended that House Substitute for SB 126, as amended above, be passed. The original contents of SB 126, dealing with the Physician Assistant Compact, will still be alive as other bills move through the process.

The committee also held a hearing on [Senate Bill 175](#). The legislation updates the definition of athletic trainer and provides an exemption for those licensed in another state, territory or foreign country to practice in Kansas. The committee proceeded to recommend the bill favorably for passage.

The committee also worked [House Bill 2236](#). It establishes the Mental Health Intervention Team Program within 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 will meet again on Friday, March 7.

Senate Takes Final Vote on Judge Selection Amendment

Today, the Kansas Senate took final action on [Senate Concurrent Resolution 1611](#), which amends the constitution of Kansas; relates to the supreme court; provides for direct election of justices; abolishes the Supreme Court Nominating commission; permits justices to make contributions to and hold office in a political party or organization and take part in political campaigns.

The final vote in the Senate was 27-13. It will now go to the House.

House Commerce Takes Action on Nursing Bill

Today, the House Commerce Committee, chaired by Representative Sean Tarwater (R-Stillwell), recommended favorably for passage [House Bill 2392](#). It facilitates nursing workforce development by setting maximum education levels for instructors at nursing schools as a requirement for state approval. The bill will now go to the full house for review.

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.