



KHA's Capitol Comments
March 7, 2025

Senate Ways and Means Continues Work on Budget

Today, the Senate Ways and Means Committee continued working on its budget. The committee reviewed the following agencies' budgets based on the House budget bill contained in House Bill 2007:

- Kansas Department of Corrections
- Kansas Sentencing Commission

The committee worked the following budgets:

- Adjutant General
- Board of Barbering
- Board of Cosmetology
- Kansas State Treasurer
- Office of the Governor
- Kansas Bureau of Investigation
- Office of Veteran Services
- State Fire Marshall
- Kansas Highway Patrol
- Higher Education

The following adjustments were approved by the committee:

- \$1.6 million added back in for disaster funds to draw down federal funds
- Restoration of \$400,000 in funding for Kansas Emergency Management operations in fiscal year 25 and \$500,000 in FY 26
- Removal of language related to the Housing Link Deposit Loan Program
- \$6 million for the Pregnancy Compassion Awareness Program
- \$50 million from Build Kansas Matching Grant Funds for use for a revolving loan fund for aviation jobs
- ARPA interest payments would be calculated monthly and transferred to the State General Fund beginning on May 1
- Removal of language renaming the Docking State Office Building the Dole Office Building
- \$7 million for KHP Hangar, pending approval by the State Finance Council

- Use of ARPA interest funds for a down payment and 30-year bonding authority for a new KBI facility with a cap of up to \$100 million
- \$500,000 for a genetic genealogy crime analysis to help solve cold cases
- Language to allow Kansas Highway Patrol to authorize lease of build to suit facility at Jabara and payment of \$250,000 from the State Highway Fund
- \$55.5 million from the State Highway Fund for the relocation of Troop C Kansas Highway Patrol headquarters, dispatch and training academy
- Added \$21 million for the regional Higher Education Stabilization Fund
- Reallocation of funds for community and technical colleges to mirror what is in the House Budget minus one dollar on each item
- Transfer of remaining APEX funds and \$19.5 million of ARPA interest to state university's capital renewal fund
- Reauthorization of Wildfire Fund \$1.04 million
- Language allowing bonding authority for Wichita State University to complete second phase of stadium project
- Restoration of \$500,000 for aviation research
- \$750,000 for a feasibility study for the dental school between Wichita State and Fort Hays
- \$3.25 million in bonding authority for K-State
- Removing \$26 million student financial base aid
- KU refinancing of bonds for central district and housing

The committee will continue working on the budget recommendations next week.

House Health and Human Services Committee Hears Bills

Today, the House Health and Human Services Committee, chaired by Representative Will Carpenter (R-El Dorado), held hearings on the following bills:

[Substitute for Senate Bill 29](#) removes the authority of the county or joint board of health or local health officer to prohibit public gatherings when necessary for the control of infectious or contagious diseases

Proponents:

- Jacklyn Paletta, Private Citizen
- Ann Roberts, Private Citizen
- Mellisa Campbell, Private Citizen
- Kari Sue Vosburg, Private Citizen
- Dale Enyart, Private Citizen

Opponents:

- Dr. Amy Voelker
- Health Forward Foundation
- Kansas School Nurses Organization
- Kansas Public Health Association
- Kansas Association of Local Health Departments
- American Academy of Pediatrics
- County Health Departments from Douglas, Johnson, Osborne, and Franklin Counties,
- Nurture KC
- Cassie Woolworth, Private Citizen
- Troy Knoell, Private Citizen

[Substitute for Senate Bill 67](#) authorizes registered nurse anesthetists to prescribe, procure and administer drugs consistent with the registered nurse anesthetist's education and qualifications

Proponents:

- William Wilk, Kansas Chamber
- Kelly Hutton-Gordon, Kansas Association of Nurse Anesthetists
- Nichole Livanos, National Council of State Boards of Nursing
- Travis Oiler, Kansas Chiropractic Association,
- Susan Hofman, Kansas Advanced Practice Nurses Association
- Janet Setnor, American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology
- Kansas State Board of Nursing

Opponents:

- Rachele Colombo, Kansas Medical Society
- Joseph Nicholas Private Citizen

[Senate Bill 250](#) enacts the Right to Try for Individualized Treatments Act to permit a manufacturer to make an individualized investigative treatment available to a requesting patient

Proponents:

- Dr. Patrick Bailey, Goldwater Institute
- Elizabeth Patton, Americans for Prosperity

Neutral Testimony:

- Kansas State Board of Healing Arts

The committee will meet again next week.

Next Week's Schedule

Next week marks the last full week of committee meetings before the Senate and House will focus their attention to all day committee of the whole to pass bills before they begin conference committee work, as they make their way toward the first adjournment or legislative break scheduled for March 29-April 9. The budget is likely to be a focus on the Senate, and the House has been focused this week on a House tax plan, as both chambers firm up positions before they begin negotiating with the other chamber.

Monday, March 10

Senate Assessment and Taxation – 9:30 a.m. – Room 548S

Continuation of hearing: [Senate Bill 280](#) – Requires the approval by a majority of electors voting at an election in order for the governing body of any taxing entity to increase its total amount of property tax to be levied by more than the annual rate of inflation

Hearing: [House Bill 2125](#) – Provides countywide retailers' sales tax authority for Pawnee County for the purpose of health care services and furnishes and equips county-supported public safety operations

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

Hearing on: [Sub House Bill 2007](#) – Makes and concerns supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2025 and appropriations for fiscal years 2026 and 2027 for various state agencies

House Education – 1:30 p.m. – Room 218N

Discussion and action: [Senate Bill 44](#) – Expands the postsecondary educational institutions eligible to participate in the Kansas Promise Scholarship Program

Hearing: [Senate Bill 87](#) – Expands student eligibility under the tax credit for the Low-Income Students Scholarship Program, increases the amount of the tax credit for contributions made pursuant to such program and provides for aggregate tax credit limit increases under certain conditions

House Taxation – 3:30 p.m. – Room 346S

Hearing: [House Bill 2390](#) – Provides countywide retailers' sales tax authority for Jackson County for the purpose of supporting hospital services in the county

Tuesday, March 11

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

Hearing: [House Bill 2284](#) – Directs the Kansas Department of Administration to adopt written policies governing the negotiated procurement of managed care organizations to provide state Medicaid services pursuant to a contract with the Kansas Program of Medical Assistance

Hearing: [House Bill 2280](#) – Clarifies that the authorized activities of paramedics, advanced emergency medical technicians, emergency medical technicians and emergency medical responders may be authorized upon the order of a health care professional, permits certain ambulance services to offer service for less than 24 hours per day, every day of the year, and requires entities using automated external defibrillators to register with the Kansas Emergency Medical Services Board

Hearing: [House Bill 2249](#) – Requires the secretary for the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services to grant physical environment waivers for certain rural emergency hospitals to provide skilled nursing facility care

Senate Local Government, Transparency and Ethics – 9:30 a.m. – Room 142S

Hearing: [Senate Bill 286](#) – Relates to the definitions of lobbyist, lobbying and lobbying client for purposes of the state Governmental Ethics Law

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

Hearing: [House Bill 2240](#) – Requires legislative approval of any Medicaid state plan, state plan amendment, demonstration or waiver that expands coverage or increases cost to the state

Senate Federal and State Affairs – 10:30 a.m. – Room 144S

Hearing: [House Bill 2054](#) – Increases the limits on certain campaign contributions under the Campaign Finance Act and eliminates such limits on contributions to party committees

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

Hearing: [House Bill 2359](#) – Enacts the Uniform Adult Guardianship and Protective Proceedings Jurisdiction Act and the Uniform Guardianship, Conservatorship and Other Protective Arrangements Act

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

Continuation of hearing: [Sub House Bill 2007](#) – Makes and concerns supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2025 and appropriations for fiscal years 2026 and 2027 for various state agencies

House Elections – 3:30 p.m. – Room 218N

Informational briefing: [Senate Bill 177](#) – Increases the limits on certain campaign contributions under the Campaign Finance Act, provides for automatic increases to such limits based on the consumer price index and eliminates such limits on contributions to party committees

Wednesday, March 12

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

Hearing: [House Bill 2311](#) – Prohibits the secretary from adopting and enforcing policies for placement, custody and appointment of a custodian that may conflict with sincerely held religious or moral beliefs regarding sexual orientation or gender identity and creating a right of action for violations

Hearing: [House Bill 2365](#) – Establishes the South Central Regional Mental Health Hospital

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

Continuation of hearing: [Sub House Bill 2007](#) – Makes and concerns supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year 2025 and appropriations for fiscal years 2026 and 2027 for various state agencies

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

Hearing: [House Bill 2402](#) – Creates the Blue Ribbon Commission on Higher Education to study and set long-term goals for higher education in the state of Kansas and requires the submission of reports to the legislature

House Education – 1:30 p.m. – Room 218N

Discussion and action: [Senate Bill 87](#) – Expands student eligibility under the tax credit for the Low-Income Students Scholarship Program, increases the amount of the tax credit for contributions made pursuant to such program and provides for aggregate tax credit limit increases under certain conditions

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

Hearing: [House Bill 2223](#) – Modifies certain provisions of the Optometry Law related to scope of practice, definitions and credentialing requirements

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

Presentation: Overview of the United Way and the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (Missouri TANF Case Study)

Thursday, March 13

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

Hearing on: [House Bill 2335](#) – Adds maternity center to the definition of health care provider for purposes of the Healthcare Provider Insurance Availability Act

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

Hearing: [Senate Bill 281](#) – Establishes the Kansas Postsecondary Education Savings Account and Kansas ABLE Savings Account Grant Incentive Program and eliminates the Low-Income Family Postsecondary Savings Accounts Incentive Program

Senate Federal and State Affairs – 10:30 a.m. – Room 144S

Hearing: [Senate Bill 234](#) – Prohibits the use of genetic sequencers or operational software used for genetic analysis that is produced in a foreign adversary

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

Continuation of hearing: [Sub House Bill 2007](#) – Makes and concerns supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year 2025 and appropriations for fiscal years 2026 and 2027 for various state agencies

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

Final action: [House Bill 2402](#) – Creates the Blue Ribbon Commission on Higher Education to study and set long-term goals for higher education in the state of Kansas and requires the submission of reports to the legislature

Informational briefing: Senate Ways and Means Actions on [Sub for House Bill 2007](#)

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

Presentation: Contract Health Care Regulations

Friday, March 14

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.