



KHA's Capitol Comments
March 11, 2025

Senate Public Health and Welfare Hears Bills

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

- [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
- [House Bill 2280](#) clarifies the authorized activities of paramedics, advanced emergency medical technicians and emergency medical responders may be authorized upon the order of a health care professional, every day of the year, and requires entities using automated external defibrillators to register with the Emergency Medical Services Board
- [House Bill 2249](#) requires the secretary of the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services to grant physical environment waivers for certain rural emergency hospitals to provide skilled nursing facility care

The committee also took action on the following bills:

- [House Bill 2170](#) designates the first full week of February as Kansas Burn Awareness Week
- [House Bill 2307](#) transfers the power to authorize and oversee certain activities regarding prenatal and postnatal diagnosed conditions awareness programs from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to the Kansas Council on Developmental disabilities

The committee will meet again on Wednesday, March 12.

Senate Government Efficiency Hears Medicaid State Plan Approval Bill

Today, the Senate Government Efficiency Committee held a hearing on [House Bill 2240](#). The legislation requires legislative approval of any Medicaid state plan, state plan amendment, demonstration or waiver that expands coverage or increases cost to the state.

The committee heard from the following conferees:

Proponents:

- Brian Sikma, Opportunities Solutions Project
- Jim Hoover and Lori Feldkamp, Big Lakes Developmental Center
- Matt Fletcher, Interhab
- Rachel Neumann, COF Training Services

Opponents:

- Kansas Department of Health and Environment Staff
- Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Staff
- Heather Braum, Kansas Action for Children
- Marissa Alcantar, Alliance for a Healthy Kansas
- Sara Hart Weir, Kansas Council of Developmental Disabilities
- Mike Burgess, Disability Rights Center of Kansas

The committee will meet on Wednesday, March 12.

Senate Federal and State Affairs Hears About Campaign Contribution Limit Changes

Today, the Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee held a hearing on [House Bill 2054](#), which increases the limits on certain campaign contributions under the Campaign Finance Act and eliminates such limits on contributions to the party committees.

The committee heard from the following conferees:

Proponents:

- Josh Ney, Kriegshauser Ney Law

Opponents:

- Brett Anderson, Sedgwick County Committee Member
- Jennifer Laport, Private Citizen
- Dale Enyart, Private Citizen
- Mary Stang, Private Citizen
- Tammy Minihan, Republican Precinct Committee Member
- Representative Samantha Parshall

The committee will meet again on Wednesday, March 12.

Senate Judiciary Hears Guardianship Bill

Today, the Senate Judiciary Committee, chaired by Senator Kellie Warren (R-Leawood), held a hearing on [House Bill 2359](#). House Bill 2359 enacts the Uniform Adult Guardianship and Protective Proceedings Jurisdiction Act and the Uniform Guardianship, Conservatorship and other Protective Arrangements Act.

The committee heard from the following conferees:

Proponents:

- Jeanne Gawdun, Kansans for Life
- Michelle Richart, US Department of Defense
- Rocky Nichols, Disability Rights Center
- Honorable Marilyn Wilder and Rachael Pirner, Kansas Judicial Council
- Chrysy Khatib, Kansas Department for Children and Families
- Haley Ordoyne, State long-term care ombudsman
- Glenda DeBoise, AARP
- Chuck Weber, Kansas Catholic Conference
- Sara Hart Weir, Kansas Council on Developmental Disabilities

Opponents:

- Joan Kelly, National Council on Severe Autism

The committee also held hearings on the following bills:

- [Senate Bill 288](#) prohibits certain sex offenders from entering onto school property or attending school activities and creates criminal penalties for violation thereof
- [House Bill 2342](#) authorizes national criminal history background checks for final applicants for certain sensitive positions with the Kansas Department of Commerce and employees in such positions and authorizes the secretary of commerce to request the Kansas Bureau of Investigation to conduct the background checks and provide the results to the secretary

The committee will meet on Wednesday, March 12.

House Gives Initial Approval to the Provider Assessment Legislation

Today, the House Committee of the Whole debated, and gave initial approval to [House Sub for Senate Bill 126](#). The legislation includes the ability to increase the provider assessment of up to 6 percent, and the inclusion of additional hospitals as determined by the Healthcare Access Improvement Panel. The bill also includes updates to the Children's Health Insurance Program income eligibility requirements, the establishment of an advance universal newborn screening program and the increase of state financial assistance to local health departments. The House made no amendments and recommended the bill favorably before they will take a final vote.

The House also gave initial debate and approval to the following bills:

- [Senate Bill 82](#) concerns the rural emergency hospitals to be granted a physical environment waiver for skilled nursing facility care. The House made no amendments.
- [Senate Bill 88](#) requires the state long-term care ombudsman and any regional ombudsman to receive training in memory care. The House made no amendments.
- [Senate Bill 175](#) updates the definition of athletic trainer. The House made no amendments.
- [Senate Bill 193](#) exempts law enforcement agencies that do not provide emergency opioid antagonist pursuant to the statewide protocol from the requirement to procure a physician medical director. The House made no amendments.
- [House Bill 2217](#) expands the power of the Medicaid inspector general to investigate and audit all state cash, food and health assistance programs. The House made no amendments.

These bills will receive a final vote tomorrow.

The House also took final action votes on the following:

- [Senate Bill 105](#) relates to the filling of vacancies to require the person be from the same political party as the incumbent, and requires legislative nomination of three persons for consideration of appointment. The bill passed on a vote of [87-36](#).
- [Senate Bill 14](#) provides for a continuous budget until amended, lapsed or eliminated by the legislature in certain circumstances. The bill passed on a vote of [82-41](#).
- [House Bill 2400](#) includes trail rides as a ranching activity to qualify as agritourism activity. The bill passed on a vote of [110-13](#).
- [Sub for HB 2152](#) concerns financial investments from government units. The bill passed on a vote of [119-4](#).

- [House Bill 2111](#) relates to the Kansas Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program. The bill passed on a vote of [115-8](#).

House Taxation Committee Hears and Works Hospital Tax Vote Bill

Yesterday, the House Taxation Committee, chaired by Representative Adam Smith (R-Weskan), held a hearing on [House Bill 2390](#), which allows Jackson County to hold an election to vote on a tax increase for the local hospital. The committee heard from:

- Carrie Lutz, Holton Hospital CEO
- Mark Aeschliman, Holton Hospital Board Member

The committee saw a motion by Representative Francis Awerkamp (R-St.Marys) and voted unanimously to recommend House Bill 2390 favorably for passage and add the legislation to the consent calendar.

House Health and Human Services Works AA/CRNA and Public Health Bills

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

- [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
- [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 disease. The committee approved an amendment, offered by Representative Duane Droge (R-Eureka) to add a 72-hour review by a judge after being isolated and creates a remedy for an appeal. The bill was then recommended favorably for passage.
- [House Bill 2368](#) provides for the licensure of anesthesiologist assistants. The committee saw an amendment to limit training slots for AAs. That amendment did not get on the bill. The committee did not recommend the bill favorably for passage.

The committee will meet on Wednesday, March 12.

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.