



KHA's Capitol Comments
March 13, 2025

Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee Hears and Works Bills

Today, the Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee held a hearing on [House Bill 2335](#). The legislation adds maternity centers to the definition of a health care provider for the purposes of the Healthcare Provider Insurance Availability Act.

Kendra Wyatt, New Birth Center, appeared as a proponent conferee.

The committee also took final action 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. The bill was recommended favorably without amendment.
- [House Bill 2365](#) establishes the South Central Regional Mental Health Hospital. The bill was amended with reordering and technical clean-up and recommended favorably as amended.
- [House Bill 2249](#) requires the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services to grant physical environment waivers for rural emergency hospitals for skilled nursing facility bed licensure. The bill was amended from saying 12 months to one year. The bill was recommended favorably as amended.

House Federal and State Affairs Hears Bill

Today, the House Federal and State Affairs Committee held a hearing on [House Bill 2379](#). The legislation requires the Kansas Bureau of Investigation to establish a Kansas voluntary Do-Not-Sell Firearms List to prevent the purchase of firearms by any person who voluntarily registers to be placed on the list.

Proponents:

- Dr. Steven Koontz
- Amy Campbell, Kansas Mental Health Coalition
- Private Citizens

The committee received written testimony from opponents and had several questions for the conferees.

The committee will meet again on Tuesday, March 18.

House Appropriations Committee Meets with Conference and Gets Briefed

Today, the full House Appropriations Committee received a briefing on the changes made to this point by the Senate Ways and Means Committee. The committee had no questions about the \$50 million All Funds for Medicaid hospital outpatient code increases.

The leaders of House Appropriations Committee, including Chair Troy Waymaster (R-Bunker Hill), Vice-Chair Kristey Williams (R-Augusta), and Ranking Minority Leader Barbara Ballard (D-Lawrence) met with the leaders of the Senate Ways and Means Committee, Chair Rick Billinger (R-Goodland), Vice-Chair JR Claeys (R-Salina), and Ranking Minority Pat Pettey (D-Kansas City), met throughout the day. The Conference Committee discussed [Senate Bill 14](#). The legislation provides for continuous state budgets until amended, lapsed or eliminated by the legislature, temporary reallocations and establishes conditions and limitations.

The Senate Ways and Means Committee worked through the budget bill, taking up budgets for the Kansas School for the Blind, Kansas School for the Deaf, Department of Education, Department of Commerce, attorney general, the Judicial Branch and state library.

Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee Hears Genetic Sequencing Bill

The Senate Federal and Senate Affairs Committee held a hearing on [Senate Bill 258](#). The legislation requires specific intent as an element of the crime of false representation of an election official.

The committee heard oral proponent testimony from Clay Barker, Kansas deputy secretary.

There was written neutral testimony and written opponent testimony.

The committee held a hearing on [Senate Bill 234](#). The legislation prohibits the use of genetic sequencers or operational software for genetic analysis produced in a foreign adversary, consisting of China, Russia, Iran, North, Korea, Cuba, Maduro Regime, Venezuela and Syria. Any such sequencer must be replaced, effective July 1, 2025. A medical facility can request reimbursement from the state treasurer to be submitted by Oct. 1, 2025.

The committee heard oral proponent testimony from:

- Jackie Deal, Advisory Board of the State Armor, spoke on concerns regarding the threat of biological warfare and specifically highlighted concerns regarding Beijing Genomics Institute's genetic analyzers that are used in some hospitals, with American individuals' genetic data being stored in China.
- Michael Lucci

The committee will meet again on Monday, March 17.

House Debates Nursing Instructor Qualifications Bill

Today, the House debated [House Bill 2392](#). The legislation facilitates nursing workforce development by setting maximum education levels for instructors at nursing schools as a requirement for state approval. The bill was amended to remove "medical personnel" and clarified that the Kansas State Board of Nursing would oversee it. The committee recommended the bill for passage but later saw a motion to reconsider. The bill has now been re-referred to the House Health and Human Services Committee.

House Welfare Reform Committee Hears Public Assistance Program Comparison Bill

Today, the House Welfare Reform Committee voted on [Senate Bill 79](#). The legislation directs the Kansas Department for Children and Families secretary to request a waiver from supplemental nutrition assistance program rules that would allow the state to prohibit the purchase of candy and soft drinks with food assistance. The committee recommended the bill favorably for passage.

The committee also held a hearing on [Senate Bill 85](#). The legislation directs the Kansas Department for Children and Families secretary to review and compare data for Public Assistance Program eligibility. The committee asked questions of the Kansas Revisor's Office staff and state agencies, including The Kansas Department of Health and Environment State Medicaid Office, the Kansas Inspector General, Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services and Kansas Department for Children and Families.

House Health and Human Services Committee Takes Action on Bills

Today, the House Health and Human Services Committee met to work the bills before them. The committee took action on [House Bill 2223](#). The legislation modifies certain provisions of the optometry law relating to scope of practice, definitions and credentialing requirements.

On a split vote, the committee recommended the bill favorably for passage.

Preceptor Tax Credit Passes House Tax Credit Bill

Yesterday, the House Tax Committee, chaired by Representative Adam Smith (R-Weskan), took action on several bills, including [House Bill 2163](#). The legislation provides a preceptor income tax incentive for nursing home administrators, registered nurses and registered dietitians serving in long-term care and medical care facilities that provide personalized training, instruction and supervision of students.

The committee made the following amendments:

- A cap to the overall credit of \$50,000
- A limit of individuals' ability to get credit to three times
- A sunset of five years to review applicability

The committee recommended the bill favorably for passage. The legislation will now be before the full House of Representatives.

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.