

# KHA's Capitol Comments March 24, 2025

#### Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee Meets

Today, the Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee held a hearing on <u>House Bill 2223</u>. The legislation modifies certain provisions of the optometry law that relates to scope of practice, definitions and credentialing requirements.

## Proponents:

- Todd Fleisher, Kansas Optometric Association
- Shane Kannar, Kannar Eye Care Optometrist
- Nathan Lighthizer, NSU Oklahoma College of Optometry

## Opponents:

The Kansas Medical Society offered a possible amendment. The committee is expected to meet on Tuesday, March 25.

#### **Health Conference Committee Meets**

Today, the Health Conference Committee met. The House and Senate agreed to the following:

- House Position on <u>Senate Bill 193</u> 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.
- Senate Position on House Bill 2069, compact legislation.
- Rural Emergency Hospital Bill will now be in <u>House Bill 2249</u>, and the contents of <u>House Bill 2365</u> establishes the South Central Regional Mental Health Hospital.
- House position on <u>House Bill 2039</u> amends the definitions in the Kansas Credentialing
  Act to provide that certain entities providing physical therapy, occupational therapy and
  speech-language pathology are not home health agencies.

The conference committee will meet again on Tuesday, March 25.

## **Insurance Conference Committee Meets**

Today, the House and Senate Insurance Committees met and agreed to positions on the following legislation:

- House Bill 2334 will now also contain the contents of:
  - Senate Bill 121 authorizes the commissioner of insurance to select and announce the version of certain instructions, calculations and documents in effect for the upcoming calendar year and cause such announcement to be published in the Kansas Register, allows certain life insurers to follow health financial reports and adopts certain provisions from the National Association of Insurance Commissioners holding company system regulatory act relating to group capital calculations and liquidity stress testing.
  - Senate Bill 28 updates public adjuster and insurance agent statutes pertaining to suspension, revocation, denial of licensure, and licensure renewal.
  - House Bill 2046 authorizes insurers to file certain travel insurance policies under the accident and health line of insurance.
- Senate Bill 23 will now also contain the contents of:
  - Senate Bill 32 reduces insurance company premium tax rates and discontinues remittance and credits a portion of the premium tax to the Insurance Department Service Regulation Fund.
  - Senate Bill 27 eliminates the requirement that the commissioner submit certain reports to the governor and removes certain specific entities from the definition of person for the purpose of enforcing insurance law.
  - House Bill 2042 requires title agents to make their audit reports available for inspection instead of submitting such reports annually, requires the amount of surety bonds filed with the commissioner of insurance to be \$100,000, and eliminates the controlled business exemption in certain counties.
  - House Bill 2044 requires that third-party administrators maintain separate fiduciary accounts for individual payors and not contain funds collected or held on behalf of multiple payors and disclose to the commissioner of insurance any bankruptcy petition filed by or on behalf of such administrator.

The conference will meet again on Tuesday, March 25.

#### **KHA Bill Tracker**

The <u>KHA Bill Tracker</u> keeps you up-to-date on current legislation. KHA will update and share this document daily while the legislators are in session.