KHA's Capitol Comments
March 6, 2020

Senate Passes Provider Assessment Bill
The full Senate took up Senate Bill 225, the provider assessment bill that implements the changes approved by the Kansas Hospital Association Board in 2019. Senate Bill 225 would modify the Health Care Access Improvement Program by increasing the assessment from 1.83 percent of net inpatient revenue to 3 percent net inpatient and outpatient revenue. The bill was held up in committee during the 2019 session due to its Medicaid expansion amenability. Senate President Susan Wagle (R-Wichita) worked with Senate Majority Leader Jim Denning (R-Overland Park) and Minority Leader Anthony Hensley (D-Topeka) in a strong showing of bipartisanship, to bring the bill to the floor after negotiating an agreement that expansion would not be amended onto the bill. Senate Bill 225 was carried by Senator Carolyn McGinn (R-Sedgwick), who explained the bill and fielded a variety of questions from the body in a debate that lasted nearly two hours. In addition to Senator McGinn, Senators Wagle, Denning and Hensley spoke in support of the bill, along with Senator Ed Berger (R-Hutchinson) and Senator Marcie Francisco (D-Lawrence). The bill was amended only once, adding appointees to the Health Care Access Improvement Panel by the House and Senate leadership and the Medicaid Inspector General's office. The bill was finally passed on a count of 31 in favor and 9 against. It will now be sent to the House for committee review.

Senate Vote on Senate Bill 225:
Yea – (31):
Alley, Berger, Billinger, Bollier, Bowers, Braun, Denning, Doll, Estes, Faust-Goudeau, Francisco, Givens, Goddard, Haley, Hardy, Hawk, Hensley, Holland, Kerschen, Longbine, Lynn, McGinn, Miller, Petersen, Pettey, Skubal, Sykes, Taylor, Wagle, Ware and Wilborn

Nay – (9):
Baumgardner, Hilderbrand, Masterson, Olson, Pyle, Rucker, Suellentrop, Thompson and Tyson

The full Senate also voted on Senate Bill 409. The bill, as amended by the Senate Ways and Means Committee, would set a sunset provision for the Nursing Facility Quality Care Assessment of July 1, 2030. Under current law, the assessment would sunset on July 1, 2020. The bill passed with few questions yesterday on a vote of 35 to 5. The bill will now be sent to the House for committee review.
KHA’s 2020 Kansas Legislative Turnaround Report
The 2020 Kansas legislative session has reached the halfway point for the regular session. Included in today’s Capitol Comments is a summary of several health-related issues that were discussed during the first half of the legislative session.

Next Week’s Schedule
Monday, March 9
Senate Ways and Means – 10:30 a.m. – 548S
Subcommittee Reports: Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services; Kansas Department for Children and Families

House Education – 1:30 p.m. – 218N
Hearing: Senate Bill 277 – Clarifying the authority of healing arts school clinics to provide healing arts services

Tuesday, March 10
Senate Public Health and Welfare – 9:30 a.m. – 118N
Discussion and Questions: Impact of Medicaid expansion in other states

House Federal and State Affairs – 9:00 a.m. – 346S
Hearing: House Bill 2723 – Requiring medical directors of emergency medical services to provide medical oversight of such services and emergency medical service providers

House Health and Human Services – 1:30 p.m. – 546S
Informational Briefing: Update on kidney disease and organ donation; Kansas State Board of Healing Arts

Wednesday, March 11
Senate Public Health and Welfare – 9:30 a.m. – 118N
Hearing: Senate Bill 407 – Requiring the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services to operate acute psychiatric inpatient beds for children in Hays and Garden City

Senate Ways and Means – 10:30 a.m. – 548S
Subcommittee Report: Health Care Stabilization Fund Board; Kansas Department of Health and Environment-Health

House Appropriations – 9:00 a.m. – 112N
Budget Committee Report: Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services; Kansas Department for Children and Families

House Health and Human Services – 1:30 p.m. – 546S
Presentation: The Cost of Health Care – Kansas Health Institute
Thursday, March 12

*House Appropriations* – 9:00 a.m. – 112N
Discussion and Action: [House Bill 2522](#) – Establishing the Rural Hospital Innovation Grant Program

*House Health and Human Services* – 1:30 p.m. – 546S
Informational Briefing: Alzheimer's Disease Center at K.U. Medical Center; Newborn Screening Program – Kansas Department of Health and Environment

Friday, March 13
No meetings scheduled in relevant committees

**KHA Bill Tracker**
The [Kansas Hospital Association Bill Tracker](#) is designed to keep you up-to-date on current legislation. KHA will update and share this document on a weekly basis while the legislators are in session. It lists the bill number and sponsor; subject of the proposed legislation; current status; and last action. If you have questions regarding legislation, please contact [Chad Austin](#) or [Audrey Dunkel](#) at (785) 233-7436.