



KHA's Capitol Comments

March 17, 2023

Senate Passes Scaled Down Budget

Yesterday, the Kansas Senate debated [Substitute for Senate Bill 155](#), a scaled-back version of the Mega Budget. The debate saw the following amendments adopted by the Senate:

- \$75/hour reimbursement rate for targeted case managers paid for by moving corrections capital improvement projects
- E-verification for state contractors
- Moved up the implementation timeline for certified community behavioral health centers
- 3.25 percent across-the-board cut
- Performance-based budgeting

Sen. Jeff Pittman (D-Leavenworth) made a motion to expand Medicaid. The motion failed on a [vote of 11-22](#). The chamber pushed many items for review off until the conference and omnibus session, where they will discuss items such as \$5 million for a mental health patient observation program for those patients awaiting involuntary admissions at a state hospital, as well as the rebasing and adding funding for long-term care.

Next Week's Schedule

Next week, the committees will work through the bills before them, as the House Appropriations Committee works toward wrapping up their version of the Mega Budget. Committee activity and bill hearings proceed at a quick pace as the legislature approaches the April 6 First Adjournment.

Monday, March 20

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

Hearing: [House Bill 2340](#) – Requiring the Kansas Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board to process applications within a certain time, decreasing the years of practice required for reciprocity licensure of certain behavioral sciences professions, extending the license period for temporary licenses, establishing new license categories and decreasing continuing education requirements related to diagnosis and treatment

[Senate Bill 287](#) – Expanding the Kansas Silver Alert plan to include persons 18 years of age or older who have dementia, a developmental disability or cognitive impairment

[Senate Bill 297](#) – Revising the definition of "abortion" to clarify procedures that are excluded from such definition

[House Bill 2288](#) – Enacting the Counseling Compact to provide for interstate practice privileges for professional counselors

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

Hearing: [Senate Bill 307](#) – Adding for-profit private entity to the definition of "qualified applicant" in the Kansas Fights Addiction Act

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

Hearing: [House Bill 2452](#) – Eliminating the requirement that the State Employees' Health Care Commission offer long-term care insurance and indemnity insurance. [House Bill 2439](#) – Requiring notification to patients that the effects of a medication abortion may be reversible

House Child Welfare and Foster Care – 1:30 p.m. – Room 152S

Hearing: [Sub. for Senate Bill 232](#) – Establishing the Office of the Child Advocate as an independent state agency, making orders granting custody for adoption subject to the federal Indian Child Welfare Act, directing the secretary for the Kansas Department of Children and Families to consider foster parents as prospective adoptive parents in certain circumstances and authorizing the appeal of any order of placement of a child

Tuesday, March 21

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

Hearing: [Senate Bill 234](#) – Prohibiting governmental entities from sharing or transmitting social care information into a closed-loop referral system

[Senate Bill 315](#) – Requiring childcare facilities, elementary, secondary and postsecondary educational institutions and employers to grant exemptions from vaccine requirements without inquiring into the sincerity of the request and repealing the meningitis vaccine requirement to live in student housing

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

Hearing: [Senate Bill 307](#) – Adding for-profit private entity to the definition of "qualified applicant" in the Kansas Fights Addiction Act

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

Hearing: [House Bill 2457](#) – Providing an income tax rate of 4.95 percent for individuals and decreasing the normal tax for corporations, increasing the income limit for the income tax subtraction modification for social security income and providing that all social security income qualifies for the subtraction modification commencing in the tax year 2026, increasing the Kansas standard deduction for individuals and further increasing the standard deduction by a cost-of-living adjustment, discontinuing the food sales tax credit, decreasing the privilege tax surtax, establishing a 0 percent state rate for sales and use taxes for food and food ingredients on July 1, 2023, and increasing the extent of property tax exemption for residential property from the statewide school levy

Wednesday, March 22

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

Hearing: [Senate Bill 314](#) – Prohibiting the secretary of the Kansas Health and Environment from requiring COVID-19 vaccination for children attending a childcare facility or school

[House Bill 2141](#) – Requiring custodial and non-custodial parents to cooperate with child support enforcement programs for food assistance eligibility and disqualifying such parents from food assistance for being delinquent in support payments

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

Hearing: [SCR 1610](#) – Proposing to amend Section 1 of Article 11 of the Constitution of the State of Kansas to limit property tax valuation increases for real property

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

Hearing: [House Bill 2269](#) – Amending the Kansas Cigarette and Tobacco Products Act to raise the minimum age to 21 years old for the sale, purchase or possession of cigarettes, electronic cigarettes or tobacco

House Financial Institutions and Pensions (Mon-Wed) – 9:00 a.m. – Room 582N

Final action: [Senate Bill 34](#) – Expanding the use and availability of rural housing incentive districts

Thursday, March 23

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

Hearing: [House Bill 2240](#) – Requiring the clerk of the district court to give notice of qualified residential treatment program placement

[House Bill 2260](#) – Increasing the number of medical student loan agreements that may be provided by the University of Kansas School of Medicine and prohibiting impediments to switching between residency programs

Friday, March 24

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.

Introduction of Bills

[House Bill 2462](#) – By Committee on Appropriations

Concerning the issuance of certain bonds; relating to the construction and renovation of the department of nursing and student wellness center on the campus of Emporia State University; providing for the powers, duties and functions of the Kansas development finance authority and Emporia State University

[House Bill 2464](#) – By Committee on Appropriations

Concerning higher education; relating to state scholarships; increasing the dollar amount of state scholarships for students who have established financial need