



***KHA's Capitol Comments***  
**March 24, 2023**

**Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee Hears/Works Bills Including Vaccine Exemptions Bill**

Today, Senator Public Health and Welfare Committee, chaired by Senator Beverly Gossage (R-Eudora) discussed [Senate Bill 315](#) on a motion of Sen. Molly Baumgardner (R-Louisburg). The committee recommended the bill favorably for passage as amended without the provisions related to workforce.

Next, the committee heard [House Bill 2313](#), the Born-Alive Infants Protection Act that provides legal protections for infants who are born alive regardless of the intent of the delivery.

Proponents:

- Jeanne Gawdun, Kansans for Life
- Sarah Zagorski, Abortion Survivor.

The committee saw an amendment to remove infant "be admitted" to the hospital. The amendment was passed and the bill was recommended favorably as amended.

The committee then held a hearing on [House Bill 2141](#), which requires custodial and non-custodial parents to cooperate with child support enforcement programs for food assistance eligibility and disqualifies such parents from food assistance for being delinquent in support payments.

Proponents:

- Steven Greene, Dugan Consulting

Opponents:

- Erin Melton, Kansas Action for Children
- Haley Cottler, Kansas Appleseed
- Marilyn Harp, Citizen Lobbyist
- Rebekah Gaston, Attorney

Sen. Renee Erickson (R-Wichita) offered an amendment to change the title. The committee adopted the amendment and recommended favorably as amended.

Finally, the committee held a hearing on [Senate Bill 234](#). The bill prohibits governmental entities from sharing or transmitting social care information into a closed-loop referral system.

Proponents:

- Steven Greene, FindHelp
- Paul Fassbender, Unite US

Opponents:

- Kelly Davydov, ChildCare Aware of Kansas

The committee did not work the legislation.

### **Senate Judiciary Committee Hears Healthcare Worker Protection**

Today, the Senate Judiciary Committee, chaired by Senator Kellie Warren (R-Leawood) held a hearing on [House Bill 2023](#). The legislation provides additional protections for health care workers.

Conferees included:

- [Tara Mays, Kansas Hospital Association](#)
- Elijah Thompson, director of physical security, Saint Luke's Health System
- Monica Natzke, chief nursing officer, Advent Health South Overland Park
- Chris Buesing, director of Workers' Compensation and workforce safety, Stormont Vail Health

Next, the committee worked the following bills:

[Senate Bill 317](#) permits prosecution for childhood sexual abuse to be commenced at any time, extends the time to file civil actions for recovery of damages caused by childhood sexual abuse and provides exceptions in the Kansas Tort Claims Act for claims arising from such abuse. The committee amended in the following ways:

- Include injury and illness language into the bill
- Language to ensure crimes against those under 18 are also included in the law

The committee moved the contents into [House Bill 2127](#) and recommended House Bill 2127 as amended.

[Senate Bill 232](#) establishes 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, directs the secretary for the Kansas Department of Children and Families to consider foster parents as prospective adoptive parents in certain circumstances and authorizes an appeal of any order of placement of a child.

The committee moved the contents into [House Bill 2070](#) and recommended House Bill 2070 as amended.

### **Next Week's Schedule**

Next week, the legislature will work bills on their chamber floors and begin meeting in conference committees to resolve positions between both the House and Senate. Non-exempt legislative committees have completed their work for the 2023 session.

### **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 Substitute for Senate Bill 96](#) – By Committee on Health and Human Services

Concerning the Kansas Department of Health and Environment; relating to licensure of childcare facilities, daycare homes and childcare centers; establishing license capacity and staff-to-child ratios; reducing license fees and training requirements; creating a process for daycare facility licensees to apply for temporary waiver of certain statutory requirements; authorizing the secretary of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to develop and operate pilot programs to increase childcare facility availability and capacity

[Senate Substitute for House Bill 2010](#) – By Committee on Judiciary

Concerning crimes, punishment and criminal procedure; relating to trials; updating a statutory cross-reference related to persons found not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect; pertaining to housing, jury instructions and annual hearings on continued commitment; relating to the criminal discharge of a firearm; increasing the penalty for violations when a person was present in the dwelling, building, structure or motor vehicle at which the offender discharged a firearm; enacting the Reduce Armed Violence Act; increasing criminal penalties for certain violations of criminal possession of a weapon by a convicted felon that involves firearms; relating to sentencing; allowing certain nondrug offenders to participate in a certified drug abuse treatment program; relating to postrelease supervision; providing that such term does not toll except as provided by law

[House Substitute for Senate Bill 244](#) – By Committee on Judiciary

Concerning business entities; relating to the Kansas General Corporation Code, the Business Entity Transactions Act, the Business Entity Standard Treatment Act, Kansas Revised Uniform Limited Partnership Act and the Kansas Uniform Partnership Act; facilitating the use of electronic transmissions and electronic signatures with certain exceptions; revising procedures and requirements related to emergency bylaws and actions under emergency conditions; merger or consolidation; dissolution and revocation or restoration of revoked or forfeited articles of incorporation or authority to engage in business and revival; modifying fees charged by the secretary of state for certain filings and copies