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& ASSOCIATES

LEGISLATIVE REPORT



KDHA

Kansas Legislative Report

January 31, 2020

As the world looks forward to Super Bowl LIV featuring our own Kansas City Chiefs, Kansas legislators finished the first month of the 2020 Legislative Session with conspicuous momentum. The first three weeks of session are often devoted to introductory and organizational tasks, however this session has seen Senate and House committees hit the ground running. Armed with nearly 600 bills carried over from last session, committees did not have to wait for new bills, though approximately 200 more bills have been introduced since January 13.

The Senate is leading the charge crossing major priorities off the to-do list. In the wake of a Medicaid Expansion compromise between Governor Kelly and Senate Majority Leader Jim Denning, the Senate Public Health & Welfare Committee held several days of hearings on SB 252 hearing both proponents and opponents. The committee is expected to debate the bill next week, which could send the bill to the Senate floor in early February. The House is watching the activity closely. Normally, such hot-topic issues are pushed toward the end of session, thus this issue has helped ignite early session activity.

The Senate captured more headlines with its recommendation of a constitutional amendment. By a two-thirds majority, the Senate debated and passed SCR 1613, a proposed constitutional amendment that would remove the right for an abortion in the Kansas Constitution and allow the Kansas Legislature to regulate abortion through state law. The proposed amendment will now be considered by the House, where if adopted by two-thirds majority, it will be placed on the August election ballot.

February is expected to be extremely active leading up to the Turnaround deadline on February 27. This means most bills (except a few exempt committees) must be passed by their chamber of origin by the Turnaround deadline in order to continue through the process.

Most health policy is in a holding pattern until the Medicaid Expansion compromise bill (SB 252) is resolved. The House Health & Human Services is not meeting regularly at this time.

Senator Pat Petty introduced Oral Health Kansas' bill that would create an oral health plan for the state. An advisory committee would be created to include oral health stakeholders, including the Kansas Dental Hygienists' Association. The bill, known as SB 349, is now in the Senate Public Health & Welfare Committee.

KDHA Advocacy Day is February 5. Though the Dental Therapy Bill has not been introduced in the House yet, SB 11 is the senate version of the bill. SB 11 is the same version of the bill passed in 2018 by a 38-0 margin.

HB 2506 was introduced to allow new Kansas residents or military spouses who are licensed in another state to have their license be transferred to Kansas. No hearing has been scheduled for the bill at this time.

Thank you and please let me know any questions. Please see below for the bill matrix.

Travis Lowe



Bill Number and Sponsor	Bill Subject	Current Status	Last Action
SB 2 Jim Denning, R-8th	Establishing the federal medical assistance percentage stabilization fund; limiting transfers from such fund, specified uses	In Senate Public Health and Welfare	05/29/2019 - Senate Withdrawn from Ways and Means; rereferred to Public Health and Welfare
SB 11 Robert G. (Bob) Bethell Joint Committee on Home and Community Based Services and KanCare Oversight	Establishing the licensure of dental therapists	In Senate Public Health and Welfare	01/15/2019 - Senate Referred to Public Health and Welfare
SB 54 Senate Ways and Means Committee	Establishing the KanCare bridge to a healthy Kansas program	In Senate Public Health and Welfare	01/30/2019 - Senate Referred to Public Health and Welfare

SB 246 Anthony Hensley, D-19th	Expanding medicaid eligibility by enacting the KanCare bridge to a healthy Kansas program	In Senate Public Health and Welfare	01/15/2020 - Senate Referred to Public Health and Welfare
SB 252 Jim Denning, R-8th	Expanding medical assistance eligibility and implementing a health insurance plan reinsurance program	In Senate Public Health and Welfare	01/29/2020 - Senate Scheduled Discussion and Action in Public Health and Welfare: Wednesday, 2/5 and Thursday, 2/6, 9:30 AM, Rm 118-N
HB 2011 Nick Hoheisel, R-97th	Sales tax exemption for required textbooks	In House Taxation	02/07/2019 - House Scheduled Hearing in Taxation: Tuesday, 2/12, 3:30 PM, Rm 112-N
HB 2066 House Health and Human Services Committee	Expanding medicaid eligibility by enacting the KanCare bridge to a healthy Kansas program	In Senate Public Health and Welfare	05/01/2019 - Senate Motion to pull from Committee failed; Yeas 23, Nays 13 (24 votes required)
Related Bills:			
HB 2102: Contents of HB 2066 replaced by contents of HB 2102 by House Committee of the Whole			
HB 2102 House Appropriations Committee	Establishing the KanCare bridge to a healthy Kansas program	In House Appropriations	01/30/2019 - House Referred to Appropriations
Related Bills:			
HB 2066: Contents of HB 2066 replaced by contents of HB 2102 by House Committee of the Whole			
HB 2298 House Health and Human Services Committee	Allowing the assignment of dental insurance benefits under the state healthcare benefits program	In House Health and Human Services	02/14/2019 - House Referred to Health and Human Services
HB 2307	Establishing non-covered dental benefits under health insurance	In Senate Public Health and Welfare	04/03/2019 - Senate Referred to Public Health and Welfare

House Health and Human Services Committee	plans and limitations on plan changes			
HB 2453 Bill Rhiley, R-80th	Creating the open borders for Kansas jobs act; recognizing professional licenses issued by other jurisdictions	In House Commerce, Labor and Economic Development	01/17/2020 - House Referred to Commerce, Labor and Economic Development	
HB 2506 Chris Croft, R-8th	Expanding the military spouse and servicemember's expedited licensure law to certain other license, certificate or registration applicants	In House Commerce, Labor and Economic Development	01/28/2020 - House Referred to Commerce, Labor and Economic Development	