

# LEGISLATIVE REPORT

**KDHA**

**Kansas Legislative Report**

**May 22, 2020**

## Legislature Meets for Final Day; 2020 Legislative Session Concludes

Legislators returned to Topeka on Thursday for Sine Die, the final day of the 2020 Legislative Session. Several Senate and House committees met in recent days to receive updates and review the status of bills. Most discussion centered on the impact of the COVID-19 crisis, while a couple committees attempted to wrap up issues near the finish line.

The House and Senate worked over a long day and through the night to resolve a handful of issues. Bills were approved that limit liability for businesses and healthcare providers against litigation related to COVID-19, providing limitations on the Governor's ability to declare state emergencies and delay property tax payments to be due on August 10, without interest or penalties. The Legislature also approved an economic relief bill to provide flexibility for banks while lending.

The House and Senate Health Committees did not meet again after the Legislature's early adjournment in March.

Though there was significant speculation Medicaid Expansion may be approved this session, the effort fell short due to the reduced session schedule and lost momentum in February. A final attempt was made yesterday to amend Medicaid Expansion language onto an unrelated bill dealing with cable, which was ruled out of order.

No health policy bills were approved at all this session leaving all such pharmacy related bills, including the two Kansas Dental Association bills, which will have to be re-introduced next session.

With the legislative session officially over, eyes now turn to elections. All 165 legislative seats are up for election, along with the four congressional seats and a U.S. Senate seat being vacated by Senator Pat Roberts. The filing deadline for candidates is June 1 at noon.

Thank you and please let us know any questions.

Travis Lowe