



MEMORANDUM

To: Interested Parties

From: John J. Federico, JD
Stephen P. Duerst, JD

Date: January 26, 2024

Re: Weekly Report – Week of January 22, 2024

Please see our Weekly Report on Kansas Legislative activities:

A SPECIAL NOTE ON BILL TRACKERS

Bills are introduced in the Kansas Legislature daily. We update your Bill Tracker every day. Please ensure you monitor the Bill Tracker to be kept apprised of what legislation has been introduced impacting your organization.

If you need to find specific language of a bill, type the number in the box under “Bill number:” on the right-hand side of [this](#) webpage. Once you find the bill listed, click that specific bill. You will find the PDF logo under the “Documents” label - click the logo...this will lead you to the text of the bill.

If there are bills that you would like *removed* from or *added* to your bill tracker, please contact Liz Sosa (Liz@FedericoDuerst.com).

As always, our office is more than happy to send you specific language as well.

TAX DEBATES CONTINUE; GOVERNOR HAS YET TO DECIDE ON GOP PACKAGE

The debate over taxes raged on in Topeka this week as House and Senate Republicans prepare to send their tax bill to the Governor. The [measure](#), which passed last week, contains several provisions including a 5.25% flat tax rate. [Governor Laura Kelly](#) is expected to veto the proposal and set the stage for a political battle that could last for months.

In anticipation of a veto, both the House and Senate Tax Committees have been busy passing measures out of committee to be used to repackage and send to the Governor.

The [Senate Tax Committee](#) held hearings on a number of bills which passed the House in the 2023 Session. This includes [HB 2229](#) (Providing a deduction from sales or compensating use tax when selling and buying different motor vehicles within 180 days), and [HB 2254](#) (Amending the definition of land devoted to

agricultural use for property tax purposes to include properties used as part of registered agritourism activities).

The Committee also heard [HB 2036](#), which would create a property tax exemption for retired and disabled veterans based on service-connected disability rating. Last Session, the bill passed the House [123-1](#). However, the Senate raised various concerns regarding the potential shrinking of the tax base, as well as the Constitutionality of the program as it relates to equity in property taxation. The sponsor of the bill, [Rep. Pat Proctor](#) (R-Leavenworth) indicated that there would be an amendment to address these concerns, including a process for the state to make counties whole for the loss in property tax collections. [Sen. Caryn Tyson](#) (R-Parker), Chair of the powerful Senate Tax Committee, expressed interest in advancing the proposal if these concerns were addressed.

The Senate also begin working [SB80](#), the bill would expand the Homestead Property Tax Relief thresholds for certain seniors and disabled veterans based on the increase of property tax increase for the claimant's homestead. Specific, the bill would:

- Increase the household valuation limit from \$350,000 to \$595,000.
- Exclude all Social Security income in the consideration of household income.

Additional changes included increasing the income limit needed for eligibility from \$50,000 to \$80,000 annually, with veterans being exempted from the limit. [Sen. Chase Blasi](#) (R-Wichita) also offered an amendment to drastically expand the program, to apply to all Kansans within the income/household value thresholds, not just those over 65. The Committee paused working the bill until the fiscal impact of the amendment can be determined. Tyson indicated willingness to work the bill next week.

In the coming week, the Senate Committee is set to work several bills previously heard. On Wednesday, the Committee will hold a Hearing on [SB 377](#), Governor Kelly's proposed tax plan. Features of her proposal include:

- Increasing the extent of property tax exemption for residential property from the statewide school levy
- Decreasing the normal rate of privilege tax
- Increasing the household and dependent care expenses income tax credit amount
- Exempting all social security benefits from Kansas income tax
- Increasing the Kansas standard deduction
- Providing for an annual sales tax holiday for certain sales of school supplies, computers, and clothing
- Providing sales tax exemptions for children's diapers and feminine hygiene products
- Reducing the state rate of tax on sales of food and food ingredients to 0% on April 1, 2024.

The House Tax Committee also had a busy week. Chiefly, the committee held a Hearing on [SB40](#), a Senate tax bundle from 2023, which permits carryforward of certain net operating losses and revises the Homestead Property Tax Refund Act with higher income and household value thresholds.

In the coming week, the [House Tax Committee](#) will review provisions of [2023 SB8](#), which died in the 2023 Session as a result of a veto by Governor Kelly. Provisions which will be reviewed in Committee include:

- Personal Property Provisions revising statements and processes for submission.
- Government Private/Public competition.
- Agricultural land adverse influence in the Agricultural Use Valuation Formula.

- Removal of sales tax on savings realized through manufacturer coupons.
- Increase of the Adoption Tax Credit to 100% of the Federal Adoption Tax Credit.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ON FIREARMS CONSIDERED

The [House Federal & State Affairs Committee](#) heard a proposed constitutional amendment on Tuesday which would increase protections for firearms and firearm accessories, including ammunition.

The amendment, which was cosponsored by a number of House Republicans, states that Kansans would have a constitutional right to ammunition and gun accessories not currently guaranteed. It would also ensure that any law regulating firearms would be subject to strict scrutiny, meaning the government would have to demonstrate a compelling interest to adopt a regulation in a narrowly tailored way.

Opponents noted the amendment might impact current laws that prohibit convicted felons or domestic abusers from owning a gun.

Different from a bill, the proposed constitutional amendment would require a two-thirds majority vote of the Legislature. If passed, it would not require a signature of the Governor but would rather be placed on the November ballot for voters to affirm or reject.

In 2010, a constitutional amendment was placed on the ballot that would protect Kansans' right to keep and bear arms. That measure was approved by 88% of voters.

BRIEFING GIVEN ON MEDICAID UNWINDING

Lawmakers in the Senate Ways & Means Committee received a briefing on ongoing efforts to resolve major issues Kansas had with "Medicaid unwinding." The phenomenon was born out of the COVID-19 pandemic, when the federal government provided expanded medical coverage to individuals during the public health emergency. Once the emergency ended, officials began the process of renewing only eligible recipients, causing massive confusion for millions of Kansans.

The issue, which impacted most states across the country, seems to have subsided over the last few months. The call center metrics returned to normal in August and improvements in technology have helped to streamline, automate, and improve the renewal process. Other changes that are expected to take place in spring of 2024 include:

- Move the signature page of the prepopulated review form to page three to reduce the number of unsigned reviews received.
- Use a new automated Proactive Communication Solution to enhance member communications specifically around sending reminders for no renewal returned; providing information on coverage status, encourage use of portal and how member can request additional time to return paperwork.
- Permanently extend the review period from 30 to a minimum of 60 days.

As of November 30:

- 436,942 individuals sent a renewal notice.
- 191,321 individuals approved.
- 48,039 individuals discontinued (determined no longer eligible)
- 35,868 individuals in reinstatement window (did not submit a review timely but have 90 days to submit a review and have eligibility backdated)

The full presentation from KDHE can be found [here](#).

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE BILLS SURFACE IN LEGISLATURE

After months of being a hotly discussed topic across the country, the first bills aiming to regulate artificial intelligence have surfaced in Kansas. Both [HB 2559](#) and [HB 2576](#) were introduced and are scheduled for hearings next week.

In short, the bills would prohibit the use of generative AI to create false representations of candidates in election campaign materials or of state officials.

HB 2559 is a bipartisan bill, sponsored by Chairman [Rep. Pat Proctor](#) (R-Leavenworth) of the [House Elections Committee](#) and the Minority Leader of the House, [Rep. Vic Miller](#) (D-Topeka).

Committee discussion in the Joint Committee on Information Technology, which was held over the summer and fall indicated that AI may be a hot topic this Legislative Session. The Executive Branch has already released a [policy](#) aimed at regulating the use of AI and has signaled future revisions as the practice evolves.

OTHER PRESS RELEASES & UPDATES

- [Governor Kelly's Bipartisan Tax Plan Introduced in Kansas House and Senate](#)
- [Governor Kelly Announces Nearly \\$1.4M for Rural Economic Development](#)

WEEKLY SCHEDULE: JANUARY 29 – FEBRUARY 2, 2024

Schedule subject to change. Daily Session calendars may be found [here](#).

Time	Committee	Room	Notes
MONDAY, JANUARY 29, 2024			
8:30 PM	S Agriculture	144-S	Bill Intros; Budget Hearing & Action: State Fair, Wildlife & Parks
8:30 AM	S Public Health & Welfare	142-S	N/A
8:30 AM	S Transportation	546-S	N/A
9:00 AM	H Fed & State	346-S	N/A
9:00 AM	H Financial Inst. & Pensions	582-N	Bill Intros; Hearings: HB2101- Deed Transactions, HB2562- Enacting the protect vulnerable adults from financial exploitation act
9:00 AM	H Legislative Modernization	218-N	Bill Intros; Briefing: Overview of IT Security Audit Work and IT Security Controls
9:00 AM	H Local Government	281-N	Bill Intros
9:30 AM	S Tax	548-S	N/A
9:30 AM	S Financial Inst.	546-S	N/A
9:30 AM	S Transparency & Ethics	142-S	Bill Intros; Budget Hearing & Action: Board of Pharmacy, Board of Healing Arts, Board of Nursing, Behavioral Sciences Board
10:00 AM	H Appropriations	112-N	Bill Intros; KDHE Lab Construction Status, Cedar Crest Updates; Possible Action

10:30 AM	S Commerce	546-S	N/A
10:30 AM	S Fed & State	144-S	Bill Intros; Action: SB254- Filling a Vacancy for US Senate by Convention; Budget Action: Kansas Lottery
10:30 AM	S Judiciary	346-S	N/A
10:30 AM	SWAM- Executive	548-S	Budget Hearing & Action: AG, Insurance Department
11:00 AM	HOUSE FLOOR		
1:30 PM	S Education	144-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB387- Continued enrollment for Open Enrollment Districts
1:30 PM	S Utilities	548-S	N/A
1:30 PM	H Ag. Budget	118-N	N/A
1:30 PM	H Commerce	346-S	Bill Intros; Action: HB2544- Servicemember Tax Credit for Employers, HB2545- E-Signatures for Certain Agreements
1:30 PM	H Corrections & JJ	546-S	N/A
1:30 PM	H Education	218-N	N/A
1:30 PM	H Health & Human Ser.	112-N	Briefing: Vaccines (KDHE); Hearing: HB2596- Revising Uniform Controlled Substances Act
1:30 PM	H Higher Ed. Budget	281-N	N/A
1:30 PM	H Transportation	582-N	Bill Intros; Hearings: HB2481- Designating a portion of K-96, HB2296- Distinctive Plate, HB2575-
1:30 PM	H. Child Welfare	152-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Child Death Review Board
2:30 PM	SENATE FLOOR		
3:30 PM	H Agriculture	112-N	Bill Intros
3:30 PM	H Gen Gov Budget	281-N	Bill Intros; Budget Hearings: Office of Governor, OITS
3:30 PM	H Judiciary	582-N	N/A
3:30 PM	H K-12 Budget	546-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Special Education Funding Taskforce
3:30 PM	H Social Services Budget	152-S	Bill Intros; Budget Hearing: Kansas Guardianship Program, HC Stabilization Fund; Briefing: Nursing Reimbursement Rates
3:30 PM	H Tax	346-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: SB8- Personal Property Provisions; Briefing: Tax Interim Recommendations
3:30 PM	H Transportation Budget	118-N	Budget Hearing: EMS, Fire Marshal
3:30 PM	H Insurance	218-N	Bill Intros; Hearings: HB2530- Redefining Auto Club, HB2531- Risk-Base Capital Instructions, HB2532- Group-Funded Liability Reporting
TUESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2024			
8:30 PM	S Agriculture	144-S	Bill Intros; Budget Hearing: Water Office, KDHE-Environment
8:30 AM	S Public Health & Welfare	142-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Foster Care Update

8:30 AM	S Transportation	546-S	Bill Intros; Budget Hearing: KDOT
9:00 AM	H Appropriations	112-N	
9:00 AM	H Fed & State	346-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2358- Death Certificate Attestation
9:00 AM	H Utilities & Telecom	582-N	N/A
9:00 AM	H Veterans	281-N	Bill Intros
9:00 AM	H Water	152-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: GWD District 3
9:30 AM	S Tax	548-S	Bill Intros; Possible Action
9:30 AM	S Financial Inst. & Insurance	546-S	Bill Intros; Budget Hearing & Action: KPERS, State Treasurer, Pooled Money Investment Board
9:30 AM	S Local Government	142-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB383- Drainage District Meeting Provisions
10:30 AM	S Commerce	546-S	N/A
10:30 AM	S Fed & State	144-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2446- Prohibiting local regulation of plastic and other containers
10:30 AM	S Judiciary	346-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: 2023 SB228- Local Reimbursement for County Jail Incarceration; Briefing: Law Enforcement Association
10:30 AM	S Ways & Means	548-S	Bill Intros; Budget Reports: Lottery, Racing & Gaming, Ethics Commission, Real Estate Commission; Briefing: World Cup 2026
11:00 AM	HOUSE FLOOR		
12:00 PM	SWAM- Public Safety	548-S	Budget Hearing: KBI, KHP
1:30 PM	S Education	144-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB386- Revising Enrolment Calculations under the School Equity and Enhancement Act
1:30 PM	S Utilities	548-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: KCC, CURB
1:30 PM	H Ag. Budget	118-N	Bill Intros' Budget Hearing & Action: State Bank Commission, Department of Credit Unions
1:30 PM	H. Welfare Reform	152-S	TBA
1:30 PM	H Commerce	346-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Enterprise KC Cybersecurity; Action: HB2611- Updating Provisions of Council on Travel & Tourism
1:30 PM	H Corrections & JJ	546-S	Bill Intros
1:30 PM	H Education	218-N	Hearing: National Guard EMERGE Program
1:30 PM	H Health & Human Ser.	112-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2547- School Emergency Medication Kits
1:30 PM	H Higher Ed. Budget	281-N	Briefing: KSU Dairy
1:30 PM	H Transportation	582-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2498- Distinctive Plate, HB2507- Renaming a Bridge in Sumner County
2:30 PM	SENATE FLOOR		

3:30 PM	H Agriculture	112-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2477- Agricultural Remediation Fund Reimbursement, HB2525- Water Program Fund Revenue Sources
3:30 PM	H Gen. Gov. Budget	281-N	Budget Hearings: AG, Gov. Ethics Commission
3:30 PM	H Judiciary	582-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2557- Expanding the definition of "peer support counseling session"
3:30 PM	H K-12 Budget	546-S	Bill Intros; Budget Hearings: School for the Blind/Deaf
3:30 PM	H Social Services Budget	152-S	Bill Intros; Budget Action: Kansas Guardianship Program, HC Stabilization Fund; Budget Hearing: State Mental Health Hospitals
3:30 PM	H Tax	346-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: SB8- Government Competition & Manufacturers Coupons
3:30 PM	H Transportation Budget	118-N	Budget Hearing: KBI; Budget Action: EMS, Fire Marshal
3:30 PM	H Elections	218-N	Bill Intros; Hearings: HB2517- Removing Req. for Treasurer to be listed in ads, HB2511- Affiliation on nonpartisan candidates; Possible Action
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2024			
8:30 PM	S Agriculture	144-S	Bill Intros; Budget Hearing: Department of Ag; Budget Action: Water Office, KDHE-Environment
8:30 AM	S Public Health & Welfare	142-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB363- Amending Statute related to Barbering
8:30 AM	S Transportation	546-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB359- KC Chiefs License Plate, SB342- Sedgwick Zoo License Plate
9:00 AM	H. Approps	112-N	Bill Intros; Briefing: Higher Ed Compact, Community & Technical Colleges; Budget Report: Kansas Lottery; Possible Action
9:00 AM	H Fed & State	346-S	N/A
9:00 AM	H Financial Inst. & Pensions	582-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2561- Authorizing domestic credit unions to operate outside of the state
9:00 AM	H Legislative Modernization	218-N	Bill Intros; Briefing: Subcommittee Reports
9:00 AM	H Local Government	281-N	Bill Intros; Hearing; HB2537- Mandating Certain Provisions in City/County Contracts
9:30 AM	S Tax	548-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB377- Governor's Tax Plan; Possible Action
9:30 AM	S Financial Inst. & Insurance	546-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB356- Per Diem Examinations; Budget Action: KPERS, State Treasurer, Pooled Money Investment Board
9:30 AM	S Transparency & Ethics	142-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Governmental Ethics Commission
10:30 AM	S Commerce	546-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Commerce 2023 Annual Report
10:30 AM	S Fed & State	144-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB253- Authorizing Delivery of Alcoholic Beverages

10:30 AM	S Judiciary	346-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Kansas Sentencing Commission
10:30 AM	S Ways & Means	548-S	Bill Intros; Budget Report: EMS Board, Fire Marshal, Department of Corrections, Office of the Governor
11:00 AM	HOUSE FLOOR		
12:00 PM	LPA	546-S	Briefing: Department of Commerce, LPAC Security Awareness Training
12:00 PM	SWAM- Public Safety	548-S	Budget Action: KBI, KHP
1:30 PM	S Education	144-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB360- Revising the 529 ABLE Account Subtraction Modification
1:30 PM	S Utilities	548-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Robocalls, Transmission Cost Allocation
1:30 PM	H Ag. Budget	118-N	Bill Intros; Briefing: 2026 World Cup Event
1:30 PM	H Commerce	346-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2598- Authorizing Kansas Real Estate Commission to issue Cease and Desist Orders
1:30 PM	H Corrections & JJ	546-S	Bill Intros
1:30 PM	H Education	218-N	Briefing; Foster Care Report Card
1:30 PM	H Health & Human Ser.	112-N	N/A
1:30 PM	H Higher Ed. Budget	281-N	Hearing: HB2460- Prohibiting Postsecondary DEI Provisions
1:30 PM	H Transportation	582-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2523- Farm Permit Holders begin Driving at 14
1:30 PM	H Child Welfare	152-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2580- Treatments for Child in Need of Care, HB2581- Courts Child Support System; Possible Action
2:30 PM	SENATE FLOOR		
3:30 PM	H Agriculture	112-N	Bill Intros; Briefing: Kansas Dairy
3:30 PM	H General Gov. Budget	281-N	Bill Intros; Budget Hearing: Insurance Department, Secretary of State
3:30 PM	H Judiciary	582-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2510- Third Party Funded Litigation
3:30 PM	H K-12 Budget	546-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: State Statute on At-Risk Learners
3:30 PM	H Social Services Budget	152-S	Bill Intros; Budget Hearings: State Mental Health Hospitals
3:30 PM	H Tax	346-S	N/A
3:30 PM	H Transportation Budget	118-N	Budget Action: KBI
3:30 PM	H Insurance	218-N	Bill Intros; Briefing: Pharmacist Assn.; Hearings: HB2478- Maternity Center as a Healthcare Provider, HB2533- Reviewing Per Diem Rates
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2024			
8:30 PM	S Agriculture	144-S	Bill Intros; Budget Recommendation - Dept. of Agriculture
8:30 AM	S Public Health & Welfare	142-S	Meeting scheduled - agenda TBA

8:30 AM	S Transportation	546-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Motorola Solutions - License Plate Recognition
9:00 AM	H Appropriations	112-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2551- Special Claims Against State; Budget Report: BIDS; Possible Action
9:00 AM	H Fed & State	346-S	N/A
9:00 AM	H Water	152-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2459- Water Diversion
9:00 AM	H Utilities & Telecom	582-N	Bill Intros; Briefing: Interim Comm.; Hearing: HB2588- Net Metering Capacity Limitation
9:00 AM	H Veterans	281-N	Bill Intros
9:30 AM	S Tax	548-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB306 including losses from investments in adjusted gross income for income tax purposes
9:30 AM	S Financial Inst. & Insurance	546-S	N/A
9:30 AM	S Local Government	142-S	Bill Intros; Hearing SB384 allowing ambulances in rural communities to operate with only minimal personnel; Possible Action
10:30 AM	S Commerce	546-S	N/A
10:30 AM	S Fed & State	144-S	Bill Intros; Hearing SB368 prohibiting the use of rank-choice voting method for elections
10:30 AM	S Judiciary	346-S	N/A
10:30 AM	SWAM- Human Services	548-S	Budget Hearings: State Institutions for Mental Health/Intellectual Disabilities
11:00 AM	HOUSE FLOOR		
1:30 PM	S Education	144-S	Bill Intros;
1:30 PM	S Utilities	548-S	Bill Intros; Final Action KCC/Citizen's Utility Ratepayer Board agency budgets; Presentation 911 System Implementation
1:30 PM	H Ag. Budget	118-N	N/A
1:30 PM	H Welfare Reform	152-S	TBA
1:30 PM	H Commerce	346-S	TBA
1:30 PM	H Corrections & JJ	546-S	Bill Intros
1:30 PM	H Education	218-N	Possible Action
1:30 PM	H Health & Human Ser.	112-N	N/A
1:30 PM	H Higher Ed. Budget	281-N	Briefing: KLRD Budget Analysis, KBOR
1:30 PM	H Transportation	582-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2500- Distinctive Plate; Briefing: License Plate Recognition System
2:30 PM	SENATE FLOOR		
3:30 PM	H Agriculture	112-N	Bill Intros; Possible Action
3:30 PM	H Gen. Gov. Budget	281-N	Bill Intros; Budget Hearing: Judicial Branch, Office of Administrative Hearings
3:30 PM	H Judiciary	582-N	Bill Intros

3:30 PM	H K-12 Budget	546-S	Bill Intros; Budget Action: Kansas School for Deaf/Blind
3:30 PM	H Social Services Budget	152-S	Budget Hearings: KNI, Office of VA
3:30 PM	H Tax	346-S	Bill Intros; Briefings: 2023 SB8 Provisions on adoption tax credit; Hearings: HB2470- Extending Filing for Homestead, HB2528- Limiting Homestead base year 65+
3:30 PM	H Transportation Budget	118-N	N/A
3:30 PM	H Elections	218-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2559- Prohibiting AI for election materials, HB2576- Publication of Statements of Fair Campaign Practices; Possible Action
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2024			
8:00 AM	JCARR	150-S	KAR Hearings: Fire Marshal, KDHE, Department of Revenue, Board of Accountancy, DCF
9:00 AM	KanCare Oversight	112-N	Briefing: Medicaid Program Expenditures, Ombudsman, OMIG, KDHE Updates, KDADS Update, MCO Update