



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Interested Parties

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

**Date:** January 13, 2023

**Re:** Weekly Report – Week of January 9, 2023

Please see our Weekly Report on Kansas Legislative activities:

### **A SPECIAL NOTE ON FINDING BILL LANGUAGE & BILL TRACKERS**

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](mailto:Liz@FedericoDuerst.com)).

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

### **2023 KANSAS LEGISLATURE CONVENES**

The 2023 Kansas State Legislature officially began on January 9, 2023. After a busy election cycle in which all House seats were up for reelection, as well as all statewide offices, the makeup remains roughly the same, with Republicans controlling a supermajority in the House and the Senate and Democratic Governor [Laura Kelly](#) (D-Topeka) occupying the Governor’s office. As of today, Republicans hold an 85 to 40 majority in the House. In the Senate, there are 28 Republicans, 11 Democrats and 1 Independent.

2023 will also bring significant changes to House leadership. After serving for an unprecedented 6 years as Speaker, former Rep. [Ron Ryckman](#) (R-Olathe) chose not to run for reelection and will be replaced by Rep. [Dan Hawkins](#) (R-Wichita) as the leader of the Chamber. Rep. [Chris Croft](#) (R-Overland Park) and Rep. [Blake Carpenter](#) (R-Derby) round out the rest of the brand-new leadership team. Further, of the 26 House Committees, 14 had new Chairs appointed – a stunning 54% turnover.

While the first week will be comprised of mostly informational briefings for new lawmakers, we expect the amount of business conducted to significantly increase in week two.

## **GOVERNOR'S INAUGURATION CEREMONIES, DELAYED STATE OF THE STATE, BUDGET PRESENTATION, HEADLINE BUSY WEEK**

With the start of a new biennium, and coming off an election year, Governor Laura Kelly, statewide officials and members of the Kansas House of Representatives were all sworn in this week. In her speech at the Inaugural Ceremony on Monday, Kelly called for more civility and agreement between Republicans and Democrats. This, she argued, leads to more accomplishments like those seen in her first term, including fully funding schools, the creation of a new 10-year transportation program, and closing large economic development deals.

On Tuesday, it was announced that the Governor was diagnosed with COVID and that the State of the State speech would be delayed until January 24, 2023 at 6:30 PM. The event had been planned for Wednesday night. Although it was announced late Thursday that the test was a false positive, there has been no formal announcement on again moving her speech.

The delayed State of the State did not, however, impact the release of the Governor's Budget. On Thursday, Secretary of Administration and Director of the Budget Adam Proffitt presented the administration's plan. Highlights included the following:

- Tax & State Financial Stability
  - Accelerated elimination of the food sales tax which would be set to conclude April 1, 2023, and which would include diapers and feminine hygiene products.
  - Increase the exemption on social security income tax. No tax filer earning under \$100,000 federal adjusted gross income will pay full state taxes on full reportable social security income.
  - Adding \$500 million to the Budget Stabilization Fund.
- Health
  - Expanding Medicaid.
  - Increased rates for targeted case management.
  - Additional funds for brain injury facilities.
- Education
  - Fully funded K-12 education.
  - Funds for a Mental Health Intervention Team Pilot.
- Workforce, Housing & Childcare
  - Enhanced marketing funding for the Department of Commerce to recruit in the state of Kansas.
  - Increased investment in the Office of Registered Apprenticeships.
  - More money for early childhood education and childcare.
  - Additional investment in the Housing Revolving Loan Program.
- Additional funds for cybersecurity, systems, and IT Infrastructure

A summary can be found [here](#). The full budget documents can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

Our full Committee Report, which includes questions from lawmakers during the hearing, can be found [here](#).

## **HAWK, NEWLAND, SUELLENTROP REPLACEMENTS ELECTED; HILDEBRAND TO FOLLOW**

Late last month, Sen. [Tom Hawk](#) (D-Manhattan) announced his retirement, prompting precinct committee members to elect his replacement. Former Manhattan mayor [Usha Reddi](#) was appointed last week to serve out Hawk's term, which runs until 2025. She has served on the Manhattan City Commission since

2013 and twice served as mayor. Hawk was the former Ranking member of the powerful [Ways & Means](#) and [Transportation](#) Committees. He previously worked in K-12 education administration, and was a member of the Kansas House from 2005 to 2011 and the Senate from 2013 until 2023.

Precinct committee members in Southeast Kansas will also be busy looking to appoint a new member to replace outgoing Sen. [Richard Hilderbrand](#) (R-Baxter Springs). Hilderbrand announced his retirement at the beginning of this year. He previously served as Chair of the [Public Health & Welfare Committee](#) and Vice Chair of the [Federal & State Affairs Committee](#). He was appointed in 2017 to serve after former Rep. and now Congressman [Jake LaTurner](#) (R-Pittsburg) stepped down to serve as State Treasurer.

Former Representative [Joe Newland](#) (R-Neodesha), who stepped down late last year to become president of the Kansas Farm Bureau was replaced by [Duane Droge](#) (R-Eureka). Droge is a veterinarian and will serve on the Welfare Reform, Social Service Budget and Legislative Modernization Committees.

Lastly, [Chase Blasi](#) was selected to serve the remainder of Sen. [Gene Suellentrop's](#) term. Blasi currently works for Evergy and was a former staffer for the Kansas Department of Revenue, former Senate President [Susan Wagle](#) (R-Wichita) and current President Ty Masterson (R-Andover). Suellentrop has been in the Legislature since 2009.

#### **REPUBLICANS OUTLINE 2 YEAR PLAN**

In a press conference on Tuesday, House and Senate Republicans outlined their policy plans for the next two years. Dubbed "A Better Way", GOP leaders presented broad issues important to the caucus in a number of areas including education, health and taxes.

A document released which provides more details can be found [here](#).

#### **MASTERSON SHUFFLES COMMITTEES**

Senate President [Ty Masterson](#) officially announced last week that Sen. [Rob Olson](#) (R-Olathe) and Sen. [Mike Thompson](#) (R-Shawnee) would be changing the committees they chair. Olson, previously the Chair of the Federal & State Affairs Committee, will now serve as Chair of the [Senate Utilities Committee](#). Thompson, who was the former Chair of Utilities, will now take Olson's old post.

In other committee-makeup news:

- Sen. [Beverly Gossage](#) (R-Eudora) will serve as the Chair of the Public Health & Welfare Committee. Renee Erickson (R-Wichita) will be elevated to Vice Chair.
- Sen. [Pat Pettey](#) (D-Kansas City) will serve as the Ranking Member on the Senate Ways & Means Committee.
- Sen. Chase Blasi (R-Wichita) will serve on the Senate [Education](#), Federal & State Affairs, [Assessment & Taxation](#) and Public Health & Welfare Committees.

#### **OTHER PRESS RELEASES & UPDATES**

- [Governor Kelly Announces Nearly \\$3 Million to Support Kids Exposed to Drugs](#)
- [Governor Kelly Announces Fiscal Year 2024 Budget](#)
- [Governor Kelly Signs First Executive Order of Second Term to Improve Early Childhood Care and Education](#)
- [Governor Laura Kelly Sworn Into Office for Second Term](#)
- [Governor Kelly Announces Proposed New Kansas Veterans Home to be Built in Topeka](#)

- [Governor Kelly Announces December Total Tax Collections Surpass Estimate by \\$140.1 Million](#)

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE: WEEK OF JANUARY 16 - 20**

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

*The Legislature will not meet Monday in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.*

<b><u>TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2023</u></b>			
<b>Time</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Room</b>	<b>Notes</b>
8:30 PM	S Agriculture	144-S	Bill Intros, Hearing: Resolution on Endangered Lesser Prairie Chicken
8:30 AM	S Public Health & Welfare	142-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: 988 Annual Reports
8:30 AM	S Transportation	546-S	N/A
9:00 AM	H Appropriations	112-N	N/A
9:00 AM	H Fed & State	346-S	Bill Intros
9:00 AM	H Water	218-N	Bill Intros, Briefing Kansas Water Office
9:00 AM	H Utilities & Telecom	582-N	Bill Intros, Briefing: State of Oil & Gas, <b>WANRACK Cable Internet Provider</b>
9:00 AM	H Veterans	281-N	Bill Intros, Organizational Meeting
9:30 AM	S Tax	548-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: Property Tax Overview
9:30 AM	S Financial Inst. & Insurance	546-S	N/A
9:30 AM	S Local Government	142-S	N/A
10:30 AM	S Commerce	546-S	Bill Intros, <b>Briefing: KLRD FY22 Military &amp; Expedited Occupational License Report</b>
10:30 AM	S Fed & State	144-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: State of Oil & Gas
10:30 AM	S Judiciary	346-S	Bill Intros, Confirmation: Rachel Pickering to Kansas Court of Appeals
10:30 AM	S Ways & Means	548-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: KPERs
11:00 AM	<b>HOUSE FLOOR</b>		
1:30 PM	S Education	144-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: K-12 by the Numbers, Special Education Disbursements

1:30 PM	S Utilities	548-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: Wind Energy
1:30 PM	H Ag. Budget	118-N	N/A
1:30 PM	H Welfare Reform	152-S	Bill Intros, DCF Cash Assistance Program, Review of DCF Internal Reforms
1:30 PM	H Commerce	346-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: Recommendations of Special Committee on Workforce Development
1:30 PM	H Corrections & JJ	546-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: State Law Enforcement Update
1:30 PM	H Education	218-N	N/A
1:30 PM	H Health & Human Ser.	112-N	Bill Intros, Briefing: DCF, KDADS
1:30 PM	H Higher Ed. Budget	281-N	N/A
1:30 PM	H Transportation	582-N	Bill Intros, Briefing: Rail & Short Line Rail
2:30 PM	<b>SENATE FLOOR</b>		
3:30 PM	H Agriculture	112-N	N/A
3:30 PM	H Judiciary	582-N	Bill Intros, Hearing: HB2016- Transfer on Death deed, HB2018- Wills and Probate, HB2027- Distribution of Assets in suspicious deaths
3:30 PM	H K-12 Budget	546-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: 2022 HB2567- Education Appropriations
3:30 PM	H Social Services Budget	152-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: Envision Program
3:30 PM	H Tax	346-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: KOMA-KORA, 2022 Special Committee on Taxation
3:30 PM	H Transportation Budget	118-N	Bill Intros, Briefing: CPOST, KDOC
3:30 PM	H Elections	218-N	On Site Tour- Shawnee County Election Office
3:30 PM	H Gen Gov. Budget	281-N	Bill Intros, Organizational Meeting
<b><u>WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2023</u></b>			
<b>Time</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Room</b>	<b>Notes</b>
8:30 PM	S Agriculture	144-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: Commodities
8:30 AM	S Public Health & Welfare	142-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: Foster Care Services, Select Committee Reports
8:30 AM	<b>S Transportation</b>	<b>546-S</b>	Bill Intros, <b>Briefing: Kansas Turnpike Authority</b>
9:00 AM	H. Approps	112-N	Bill Intros, Briefing: Budget Stabilization Fund, SPARK Expenditures, Docking State Office Building

9:00 AM	H Fed & State	346-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control
9:00 AM	H Water	152-S	
9:00 AM	H Financial Inst. & Pensions	582-N	Bill Intros, Briefing: KPERS
9:00 AM	H Local Government	281-N	Bill Intros, Briefing: League of Municipalities
9:00 AM	H Leg. Modernization	218-N	Bill Intros, Briefing: CITO IT Capabilities; Committee Discussion on Committee Direction
9:30 AM	S Tax	548-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: Sales Tax Overview
9:30 AM	S Financial Inst. & Insurance	546-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: Office of State Bank Commissioner
9:30 AM	S Transparency & Ethics	142-S	N/A
10:30 AM	S Commerce	546-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: APEX Project
10:30 AM	S Fed & State	144-S	Bill Intros, Hearing: SB3- Designating State Land Fossil
10:30 AM	S Judiciary	346-S	Bill Intros
10:30 AM	S Ways & Means	548-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: KDHE Lab, State Veterans Home
11:00 AM	<b>HOUSE FLOOR</b>		
12:00 PM	<i>LPA</i>	<i>546-S</i>	Audits: Economic Development Major Programs
12:00 PM	<i>Rules &amp; Journal</i>	<i>112-N</i>	Hearing: HR6004- House Rules, HCR5002- Joint Rules for House and Senate
1:30 PM	S Education	144-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: K-12 ESSER Funding
1:30 PM	S Utilities	548-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: Power Industry Update
1:30 PM	H Ag. Budget	118-N	N/A
1:30 PM	<i>Joint Corrections/Child Welfare</i>	<i>582-N</i>	Briefing: Serving Juvenile Offenders in Foster Care
1:30 PM	H Commerce	346-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: Build UP Kansas, Kansas Restaurant Association
1:30 PM	H Education	218-N	Bill Intros, Briefing: K-12 by the Numbers
1:30 PM	H Health & Human Ser.	112-N	Bill Intros, Briefing: CMHCs
1:30 PM	H Higher Ed. Budget	281-N	N/A

1:30 PM	H Transportation	582-N	N/A
2:30 PM	<b>SENATE FLOOR</b>		
3:30 PM	H Agriculture	112-N	Bill Intros, Briefing: Corn, Wheat, & Soybean Commissions
3:30 PM	H General Gov. Budget	281-N	Bill Intros, Briefing: BOTA, Gov. Ethics Commission
3:30 PM	H Judiciary	582-N	N/A
3:30 PM	H K-12 Budget	546-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: School Finance 101
3:30 PM	H Social Services Budget	152-S	Bill Intros, Budget Process Overview
3:30 PM	H Tax	346-S	N/A
3:30 PM	H Transportation Budget	118-N	Bill Intros, Briefing: KBI, Adjutant General
3:30 PM	H Insurance	218-N	Bill Intros, Briefing: Kansas Insurance Department

***THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 2023***

<b>Time</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Room</b>	<b>Notes</b>
8:30 PM	S Agriculture	144-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: KS Department of Ag
8:30 AM	S Public Health & Welfare	142-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: Select Committee Reports
8:30 AM	S Transportation	546-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: KDOT
9:00 AM	H Appropriations	112-N	Bill Intros, Briefing: ARAP Grants for Higher Ed., Community & Technical College Report
9:00 AM	H Fed & State	346-S	Bill Intros
9:00 AM	H Water	218-N	Bill Intros, Briefing: Division of Water
<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>H Utilities &amp; Telecom</b>	<b>582-N</b>	<b>Bill Intros, Briefing: Kansas Water Office, KCTA Presentation by John Federico</b>
9:00 AM	H Veterans	281-N	Bill Intros, Briefing: Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs
9:30 AM	S Tax	548-S	Bill Intros, Hearings: SB4- Tax Exemption School for Blind, SB21- Annual sales tax holiday for school supplies
9:30 AM	S Financial Inst. & Insurance	546-S	Bill Intros, Hearing: SB17- Modifying prepaid service plan membership
9:30 AM	S Local Government	142-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
10:30 AM	S Commerce	546-S	Bill Intros, Briefing LPA Revenue Bonds Property Tax Exemptions

10:30 AM	S Fed & State	144-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control
10:30 AM	S Judiciary	346-S	Bill Intros, Judicial Branch Update
10:30 AM	S Ways & Means	548-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: State Debt, 2022 LPA Audits
11:00 AM	<b>HOUSE FLOOR</b>		
1:30 PM	S Education	144-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: Community College & Non-Profit Higher Ed by the Numbers
1:30 PM	S Utilities	548-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: Oil and Gas Overview
1:30 PM	H Ag. Budget	118-N	N/A
1:30 PM	H Welfare Reform	152-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: DCF Food Assistance, DCF Internal Reforms
1:30 PM	H Commerce	346-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: Kansas Children's Cabinet, WSU Workforce Development
1:30 PM	H Corrections & JJ	546-S	Bill Intros, Briefing: KDOC Update
1:30 PM	H Education	218-N	Bill Intros, Briefing: Technical Ed; Hearing: HB2003- Authorizing KSHSAA to establish classification system
1:30 PM	H Health & Human Ser.	112-N	Bill Intros, Briefing: Kansas Medical Society
1:30 PM	H Higher Ed. Budget	281-N	N/A
1:30 PM	H Transportation	582-N	Bill Intros, <b>Briefing: Kansas Turnpike Authority</b>
2:30 PM	<b>SENATE FLOOR</b>		
3:30 PM	H Agriculture	112-N	Bill Intros, Briefing: Department of Ag
3:30 PM	H Judiciary	582-N	Bill Intros, Hearings: HB2015- Court order related to infectious disease, HB2017- Uniform Family Law Arbitration Act; Briefing: Public Defense
3:30 PM	H K-12 Budget	546-S	N/A
3:30 PM	H Social Services Budget	152-S	Bill Intros, <b>Briefing: Targeted Case Management</b>
3:30 PM	H Tax	346-S	N/A
3:30 PM	H Transportation Budget	118-N	Bill Intros, Briefing: KDOT, KHP
3:30 PM	H Elections	218-N	Bill Intros, Briefing: Governmental Ethics Commission
3:30 PM	H Gen Gov. Budget	281-N	Bill Intros, Briefing: Real Estate Appraisal Board