



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Interested Parties

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

**Date:** March 8, 2024

**Re:** Weekly Report – Week of March 4, 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 and the link to your Bill Tracker is now automatically updated. Please ensure you monitor the Bill Tracker to be kept apprised of what legislation has been introduced impacting your organization.***

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.

### **KU CANCER CENTER FUNDING MOVES FORWARD**

Money for the University of Kansas and its [proposed \\$600 million Cancer Center](#) moved through the Legislature this week.

The House and Senate budget committees both recommended \$75 million from the state be allocated to the project. Other proposed funding sources include federal dollars and philanthropic gifts.

The current Cancer Center, which the medical center has outgrown, has had an estimated \$2.5 billion in economic impact from 2007 to 2022. Construction of the new center will also help the University of Kansas Medical Center maintain its prestigious National Cancer Institute designation.

Budgets in both the House and Senate have been finalized and are expected to run in their respective chambers next week.

### **HOMELESSNESS BILL HEARD; DISCUSSIONS CONTINUE**

A bill to help communities deal with homelessness had a hearing this week.

The House Welfare Reform Committee heard [HB 2723](#). The bill would create a grant fund that would be administered by Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS). KDADS would award the funds to Kansas local governments that meet the specified requirements and would be used to create homeless shelter infrastructure and a program to administer the funding and contracts. Awards would need to be matched by the local government receiving the funding based on a dollar-for-dollar basis.

Proponents of the bill noted this would not only help with the building of shelters, but also administering wraparound services to individuals. KDADS had originally requested the \$40 million appropriation be put directly in its budget, but lawmakers opted to draft a bill instead.

The discussion of the issue is expected to continue into next week and include several presentations by entities that address and deal with the homelessness issue across the state.

### **DEI BILL IMPACTING HIGHER EDUCATION PASSED OUT OF COMMITTEE**

Proposed legislation regarding Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) was discussed this week in a committee that oversees budgets for higher education institutions.

The committee held discussion and eventually passed [HB 2460](#). In essence, the bill would prohibit postsecondary educational institutions from conditioning admission or educational aid to applicants, or employment decisions for faculty, upon their support of, or opposition to, statements regarding diversity, equity, inclusion, patriotism, or related topics.

The bill would also create a cause of action for anyone whose rights were allegedly violated against postsecondary educational institutions and its agent in state or federal court for declaratory relief or injunction. Amendments were made to the bill that would lower the penalty for violation of the law and provisions related to due process.

DEI has been a hotly discussed topic across the country in recent years. More than 30 states have introduced bills banning or limiting DEI initiatives. The Kansas Senate has proposed proviso language related to the topic.

It is unclear whether the House will run the bill across its floor.

### **NEW "PULL OVER" LAW CONSIDERED**

New laws pertaining to when drivers are required to pull over had a hearing in the [House Transportation Committee](#) on Thursday.

[SB 142](#) would require drivers approaching a stopped vehicle displaying hazard lights or other similar signal to proceed with caution and change lanes if it is possible to do so. If a driver does not comply, a \$75 fine would be issued.

Proponents of the bill included AAA Kansas, the Kansas Chiefs of Police and Sheriff's Association.

The bill originally passed the Senate on a vote of [38-2](#).

**STAR BOND REFORM BILL FIRST INTRODUCED IN 2023 TO BE HEARD**

A [bill](#) pertaining to STAR bond reform will be heard next week in the [Senate Commerce Committee](#).

The proposal, which was passed in the House last year, would provide for state revenue to replace lost sales tax proceeds attributable to reductions in the state sales tax rate on food, expand eligible uses of STAR bonds to historic theaters and major amusement parks, extend the deadline for the submission of the annual STAR bonds report, and increase the amount of project costs that may be financed in certain rural redevelopment projects without the issuance of special obligation bonds.

STAR - or Sales Tax and Revenue - bonds have been used in Kansas the past several years. It is a financing tool that allows Kansas municipalities to issue bonds to finance the development of major commercial, entertainment and tourism projects. The bonds are paid off through the sales tax revenue generated by the development. The intent is to increase regional and national visitation to Kansas.

Results have been mixed. Some districts have had tremendous growth and have become major tourist destinations. Others continue to struggle and have left the state and local units without tax revenue.

The bill will be heard next Tuesday.

**AG PROPOSES BILL TO HELP COMBAT RETAIL CRIME**

With retail crime spiking across the country, [Attorney General Kris Kobach](#) is bringing forward a bill that would create a new crime to help clamp down on criminals. [SB 415](#) would create new a crime of organized retail crime, which would be a severity level 5, nonperson felony.

Under the bill, theft of property that has a value of \$3,000 or more would be a severity level 5, nonperson felony. The bill would also add organized retail crime to offenses under the Kansas Racketeering Act. The Attorney General and county or district attorney could concurrently prosecute violations of the Kansas Racketeering Act and crimes that are part of an alleged course of criminal conduct that occurred in two or more counties.

The bill will be heard in the [Senate Judiciary Committee](#) on Tuesday.

**JOINT COMMITTEE ON CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM OVERSIGHT TO MEET**

The Joint Committee on Child Welfare System Oversight will meet on Friday, March 15, beginning at 9:00 AM. A tentative agenda can be found [here](#).

**KS HOUSE FLOOR REPORT – MARCH 8, 2024**

Please see a summary of action conducted on the House Floor yesterday.

Bill Number	Subject	Motion	Result
<a href="#">Sub for HB 2676</a> by House Judiciary Committee	Creating the crime of encouraging suicide and providing criminal penalties therefor	Final Action	Passed, 119-1
<a href="#">HB 2749</a> by House Health and Human Services Committee	Requiring medical care facilities and providers to report the reasons for each abortion performed at such facility or by such provider to the secretary of health and environment	Final Action	Passed, 81-39
<a href="#">HB 2665</a> by House Corrections and Juvenile Justice Committee	Increasing criminal penalties for a driver who leaves the scene of a vehicular accident when the accident results in the death of any person or more than one person, if the driver knew or reasonably should have known that such accident resulted in injury or death	General Orders	Recommended favorably for passage; EFA: passed, 120-0
<a href="#">SB 338</a> by Senate Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee	Changing certain reporting requirements of group-funded liability and workers compensation pools	General Orders	Recommended favorably for passage; EFA: passed, 103-17
<a href="#">SB 339</a> by Senate Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee	Updating the version of risk-based capital instructions in effect	General Orders	Recommended favorably for passage; EFA: passed, 103-17
<a href="#">SB 356</a> by Senate Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee	Requiring that per diem amounts, expenses and funding for examinations be reasonable and establishing a tiered fee structure for examinations of insurance companies and societies based on gross premiums	General Orders	Recommended favorably for passage; EFA: passed, 109-11

<a href="#">SB 398</a> by Senate Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee	Authorizing the commissioner of insurance to set the amount of certain fees and requiring the publication of such fees in the Kansas register	General Orders	Recommended favorably for passage; EFA: passed, 103-17
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**OTHER PRESS RELEASES & UPDATES**

- [Governor Kelly Announces More than \\$14M to Improve 37 Kansas Airports](#)
- [Governor Kelly Announces \\$14M Capital Investment Creating 110 Jobs in Wellington](#)

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE: MARCH 11 – MARCH 15, 2024**

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

Time	Committee	Room	Notes
<b>MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2024</b>			
8:30 PM	S Agriculture	144-S	N/A
8:30 AM	S Public Health & Welfare	142-S	N/A
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	N/A
9:00 AM	H Financial Inst. & Pensions	582-N	Hearing: HB2812- UCCC Bill; Possible Action
9:00 AM	H Legislative Modernization	218-N	N/A
9:00 AM	H Local Government	281-N	Hearing: SB162- Revising Riley County Area Nuisance Abatement Act
9:30 AM	S Tax	548-S	Bill Intros; Action on Bills in Committee
9:30 AM	S Financial Inst.	546-S	N/A
9:30 AM	S Transparency & Ethics	142-S	N/A
10:30 AM	S Commerce	546-S	N/A
10:30 AM	S Fed & State	144-S	Bill Intros; Hearing; HB2783- Prohibiting Restricting sale or use of a Vehicle based on Energy Source; Possible Action
10:30 AM	S Judiciary	346-S	Hearing: HB266-- Modifying Business Entity Filings, HB2628- Child Death in State Care; Possible Action
10:30 AM	S Ways & Means	548-S	N/A
11:00 AM	HOUSE FLOOR		
1:30 PM	S Education	144-S	N/A
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	Action: HB2544- Tax Credit for Employment of Military Servicemembers; Possible Action
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: HB2793- Prohibiting Certain Medical Services on Minors w/o Parental Consent
1:30 PM	H Higher Ed. Budget	281-N	N/A
1:30 PM	H Transportation	582-N	N/A
1:30 PM	H. Child Welfare	152-S	Briefing: Brain Balance Achievement Centers
2:30 PM	SENATE FLOOR		
3:30 PM	H Agriculture	112-N	N/A
3:30 PM	H Gen Gov Budget	281-N	N/A
3:30 PM	H Judiciary	582-N	N/A
3:30 PM	H K-12 Budget	546-S	N/A
3:30 PM	H Social Services Budget	152-S	N.A
3:30 PM	H Tax	346-S	Action: HB2685- Tax Exemption for Charitable Orgs. HB2219- Deduction of Wagering Loss, HB2757- Adoption Savings Act
3:30 PM	H Transportation Budget	118-N	N/A
3:30 PM	H Insurance	218-N	Hearing: SB423- Revising Insurance Boards; Action: SB423- Revising Insurance Boards
<b>TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2024</b>			
8:30 PM	S Agriculture	144-S	Hearing: HB2543- Livestock Brand Applications
8:30 AM	S Public Health & Welfare	142-S	Hearings; HB2547- Schools Emergency Kits, HB2579- EMS Prescription of OTC Meds, HB2784- KDADS Nursing Facility Provider Assessment
8:30 AM	S Transportation	546-S	Hearings; HB2498 & HB2500- Distinctive Plates
9:00 AM	H Appropriations	112-N	Hearing; HB2362- Removing Fire Marshal Oversight for Disability Providers; Update on BUILD Kansas; Possible Action
9:00 AM	H Fed & State	346-S	Bill Intros; Hearings: HB2809- Every Mom Matter Act Pregnancy Consulting, HB2813- Crime of Coercion to obtain an Abortion
9:00 AM	H Utilities & Telecom	582-N	N/A
9:00 AM	H Veterans	281-N	N/A
9:00 AM	H Water	152-S	Final Action on Bills Previously Heard
9:30 AM	S Tax	548-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: TBD; Possible Action
9:30 AM	S Financial Inst. & Insurance	546-S	Hearing: HB2101- Regulating Deed Transactions
9:30 AM	S Local Government	142-S	Action: SB510- City Power Connection to Sewer Systems
10:30 AM	S Commerce	546-S	Hearing: HB2387- Funding for STAR Bonds to Replace lost Food Sales Tax

10:30 AM	S Fed & State	144-S	Bill Intros; Hearings: HB2618- False Representation of Election Official, HB2512- Advance Voting Ballots Received day prior to Election Day
10:30 AM	S Judiciary	346-S	Hearing; SB415- Creating the Crime of Organized Retail Crime, HB2604- Increasing Small Claims Amount to \$10,000
10:30 AM	S Ways & Means	548-S	Hearings; HB2760- Enabling the Office of Veterans Services, HB2623- Veterans Claims Assistance Program; Possible Action
11:00 AM	HOUSE FLOOR		
1:30 PM	S Education	144-S	Hearings: HB2567- Enacting EMERGE Program, HB2703- At-Risk Programs for Foster Care Youth
1:30 PM	S Utilities	548-S	Hearing: HB2590- Updating Penalties for KCC Pipeline Violations
1:30 PM	H Ag. Budget	118-N	N/A
1:30 PM	H. Welfare Reform	152-S	Action: HB2723- Homelessness Grant
1:30 PM	H Commerce	346-S	Hearing: HB2818- Legislative Review for Occupational Regulation
1:30 PM	H Corrections & JJ	546-S	N/A
1:30 PM	H Education	218-N	Action: HB2731- Board of Education Reporting on Statewide Assessments
1:30 PM	H Health & Human Ser.	112-N	N/A
1:30 PM	H Higher Ed. Budget	281-N	N/A
1:30 PM	H Transportation	582-N	Briefing; KDOT Airport Needs Assessment; Hearing: SB272- Transfer from SHF to Airport Development Fund, SB424- Plane Coordinate System; Possible Action
2:30 PM	SENATE FLOOR		
3:30 PM	H Agriculture	112-N	Hearing; SB417- Removing Wildlife & Parks Eminent Domain Authority
3:30 PM	H General Gov Budget	281-N	Briefing & Discussion: 10% fee paid to the SGF
3:30 PM	H Judiciary	582-N	Hearings: SB379- Revising Notice for Probate of a Will, SB458- Civil Asset Forfeitures in certain cases
3:30 PM	H K-12 Budget	546-S	N/A
3:30 PM	H Social Services Budget	152-S	N/A
3:30 PM	H Tax	346-S	Bill Intors; Hearing: HB2763- Tax Credit for Ethanol Blends,, HB2819- Rawlins County Tax Authority, Action: Subtraction on Tax by Eminent Domain
3:30 PM	H Transportation Budget	118-N	N/A
3:30 PM	H Elections	218-N	Briefing: SB267- Prohibiting Use of Federal Funds for Election Operations

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2024**

8:30 PM	S Agriculture	144-S	Hearing; HB2634- Providing Corrective Control for Groundwater; Possible Action
8:30 AM	S Public Health & Welfare	142-S	Hearing: HB2751- KDADS Ability to Grant Regulation Waivers Unrelated to Health; Possible Action
8:30 AM	S Transportation	546-S	Hearing: HB2501- Designating State Railroad and Locomotive
9:00 AM	H. Approps	112-N	Hearing: HB2811- KDOC Nursery in Corrections Facilities; Briefing: ZeroEyes; Possible Action
9:00 AM	H Fed & State	346-S	Bill Intros; Action on Bills in Committee
9:00 AM	H Water	152-S	N/A
9:00 AM	H Financial Inst. & Pensions	582-N	Briefing; Public Funds Pooled Collateral & Deposit Loan Program; Hearing: SB345- Commercial Financing Disclosure Act; Possible Action
9:00 AM	H Legislative Modernization	218-N	N/A
9:00 AM	H Local Government	281-N	Hearing: SB384- Ambulances to Operate with Minimum Personnel
9:30 AM	S Tax	548-S	Bill Intros; Action on Bills in Committee
9:30 AM	S Financial Inst. & Insurance	546-S	Hearing: HB2711- Increasing Amount of KPERS Retirant Compensation
9:30 AM	S Transparency & Ethics	142-S	N/A
10:30 AM	S Commerce	546-S	Briefing; Hilmer Cheese Company; Hearing: HB2745- Exemption of Licensing and Registration Fees for Military Spouses
10:30 AM	S Fed & State	144-S	Bill Intros; Action on Bills in Committee
10:30 AM	S Judiciary	346-S	Hearing; SB416- Prohibiting Fines in Juvenile Cases; Possible Action
10:30 AM	S Ways & Means	548-S	N/A
11:00 AM	HOUSE FLOOR		
1:30 PM	S Education	144-S	Hearings; SB427- USD List Information on Board Meetings, SB428- Attendance Center Assessment Reporting
1:30 PM	S Utilities	548-S	Action: HB2690- Revising the 911 Coordinating Council and Associated Fees
1:30 PM	H Ag. Budget	118-N	N/A
1:30 PM	H Commerce	346-S	Action: HB2766- Creating the Kansas Land and Military Installation Protection Act
1:30 PM	H Corrections & JJ	546-S	Action: SB414 & SB419- Fentanyl Crimes, SB318- Review of AV Evidence by Municipal Courts; Possible Action
1:30 PM	H Education	218-N	Briefing: Roundtable with Superintendents
1:30 PM	H Health & Human Ser.	112-N	N/A
1:30 PM	H Higher Ed. Budget	281-N	N/A



1:30 PM	H Transportation	582-N	Briefing: Drive to Zero, KHP Excessive Speed; Possible Action
1:30 PM	H Child Welfare	152-S	Briefing: iGRAD Keys for Networking
2:30 PM	SENATE FLOOR		
3:30 PM	H Agriculture	112-N	Briefing: K-State 105; Possible Action
3:30 PM	H General Gov. Budget	281-N	N/A
3:30 PM	H Judiciary	582-N	Hearing: HB2805- Extending Exceptions to KORA
3:30 PM	H K-12 Budget	546-S	N//A
3:30 PM	H Social Services Budget	152-S	N/A
3:30 PM	H Tax	346-S	Bill Intros; Hearings; HB2815- LAVTRF City Revenue Sharing, HB2694- SAFESR Adjustments; Action: HB2609- Pollution Control Devices
3:30 PM	H Transportation Budget	118-N	N/A
3:30 PM	H Insurance	218-N	N/A
<b>THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2024</b>			
8:30 PM	S Agriculture	144-S	Hearing: HB2168- Reducing Fees on Hemp Licensure
8:30 AM	S Public Health & Welfare	142-S	Hearing; HB2453- Dentist Compact; Possible Action
8:30 AM	S Transportation	546-S	N/A
9:00 AM	H Appropriations	112-N	Hearing: HB2526- Revising Watershed District Act Fees; Briefing: Update on Docking Building; Possible Action
9:00 AM	H Fed & State	346-S	N/A
9:00 AM	H Water	152-S	TBA
9:00 AM	H Utilities & Telecom	582-N	N/A
9:00 AM	H Veterans	281-N	N/A
9:30 AM	S Tax	548-S	Bill Intros; Action on Bills in Committee
9:30 AM	S Financial Inst. & Insurance	546-S	Action on Bills in Committee
9:30 AM	S Local Government	142-S	N/A
10:30 AM	S Commerce	546-S	Action on Bills in Committee
10:30 AM	S Fed & State	144-S	Bill Intros; Action on Bills in Committee
10:30 AM	S Judiciary	346-S	Hearing: SB361- Crime of Leaving Scene of Accident, HB2487- Immunity from Certain Drug Crimes when Seeking Treatment; Possible Action
10:30 AM	S Ways & Means	548-S	Hearings; SB524- Irrigation District Board Elections, SB529- Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training Center District Act; Possible Action
11:00 AM	HOUSE FLOOR		
1:30 PM	S Education	144-S	Action on Bills in Committee

1:30 PM	S Utilities	548-S	Hearing: SB284- Blin Information Access Act; Action: HB2590- KCC Penalties for Pipeline Violations
1:30 PM	H Ag. Budget	118-N	N/A
1:30 PM	H Welfare Reform	152-S	Briefing on Homelessness- McPherson Housing Coalition
1:30 PM	H Commerce	346-S	Action on Bills in Committee
1:30 PM	H Corrections & JJ	546-S	Possible Action
1:30 PM	H Education	218-N	Briefing: Kansas Master Teachers
1:30 PM	H Health & Human Ser.	112-N	TBA
1:30 PM	H Higher Ed. Budget	281-N	N/A
1:30 PM	H Transportation	582-N	Action on Bills in Committee
2:30 PM	SENATE FLOOR		
3:30 PM	H Agriculture	112-N	N/A
3:30 PM	H Judiciary	582-N	N/A
3:30 PM	H K-12 Budget	546-S	N/A
3:30 PM	H Social Services Budget	152-S	N/A
3:30 PM	H Tax	346-S	Bill Intros; Hearings: HB2683- Modifying Property Tax Deadlines, HB2795- Forms for Revenue Neutral Rate Notices; Possible Action
3:30 PM	H Transportation Budget	118-N	N/A
3:30 PM	H Elections	218-N	Briefing: SB366- Prohibiting Sending Advanced Ballot Applications without Request