

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

KDHA

Kansas Legislative Report

February 18, 2021

Another week is in the books as snow and subzero temperatures forced several committees to postpone or cancel planned meetings. Nearly 700 bills have been introduced as committees plan to spend the next week holding hearings and recommending bills before the Turnaround deadline on March 5. Turnaround marks the deadline by which most bills must be passed by their chamber of origin to remain active in the process this session.

The House and Senate continue to piece together their state budget drafts while school choice, sports wagering and medical marijuana proposal, along with vaccination updates capture headlines.

The Legislature regretted to learn of the passing of Senator Bud Estes (R-Dodge City), who battled health issues over the last year. The Senate will be closed on Monday to allow members to attend Senator Estes' funeral.

The much anticipated Dental Therapy Bill hearing took place in the Senate Public Health & Welfare Committee. KDHA's Travis Lowe and Julie Martin, RDH, ECP III led supportive testimony joined by Oral Health Kansas and several written proponents. The Kansas Dental Association opposed the bill, along with several dentists. KDHA's testimony noted the opportunities the new profession can provide existing dental hygienists, dental hygiene students and the intention to improve underserved populations, as well as the previous support of the Kansas Dental Association in 2018. The committee discussed the possible benefits of the bill, along with understanding the role and success of Extended Care Permits.

No hearing has been scheduled for SB 121. SB 121 proposes to allow the Kansas Dental Board to take disciplinary action against a dental licensee for failing to perform an examination of a patient prior to diagnosing and correcting malpositions of human teeth or initial use of orthodontic appliances.

SB 227 is a bill to update the Dental Practice Act introduced by Oral Health Kansas. The bill, referred to the Senate Public Health & Welfare Committee, has not been scheduled for a hearing. Due to Turnaround requirements, no consideration is expected this session.

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

Travis Lowe



Bill Number and Sponsor	Bill Subject	Current Status	Last Action
SB 10 Richard Hilderbrand, R-13th	Enacting the right to earn a living act to minimize unnecessary occupational licensing and regulation	In Senate Commerce	01/20/2021 - Senate Scheduled Hearing in Commerce: Wednesday, 1/27, 10:30 AM, Rm 546-S
SB 34 Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee	Sunsetting administrative rules and regulations five years after adoption unless extended by the legislature	In Senate Federal and State Affairs	01/21/2021 - Senate Scheduled Hearing in Federal and State Affairs: Tuesday, 1/26, 10:30 AM, Rm 144-S
SB 121 Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee	Updating certain provisions of the Kansas dental practice act	In Senate Public Health and Welfare	02/02/2021 - Senate Referred to Public Health and Welfare
SB 129 Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee	Providing for the licensure of dental therapists	In Senate Public Health and Welfare	02/10/2021 - Senate Scheduled Hearing in Public Health and Welfare: Wednesday, 2/17, 8:30 AM, Rm 142-S
SB 137 Senate Commerce Committee	Expanding the military spouse and service member's expedited licensure law to all applicants who have established or intend to establish residency in Kansas, providing for licenses in an emergency declared by the legislature, allowing telemedicine by out-of-state healthcare providers and permitting the use of electronic credentials	In Senate Commerce	02/17/2021 - Senate Scheduled Hearing in Commerce: Tuesday, 2/23, 10:30 AM, Rm 546-S
SB 227 Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee	Providing dental benefits for medicaid enrollees and making technical updates to the dental practices act	In Senate Public Health and Welfare	02/12/2021 - Senate Referred to Public Health and Welfare

HB 2061 House Federal and State Affairs Committee	Increasing the minimum age to purchase or possess cigarettes and tobacco products from 18 to 21, and prohibiting cigarette vending machines and flavored vaping products	In House Federal and State Affairs	01/14/2021 - House Referred to Federal and State Affairs
Sub for HB 2066 Chris Croft, R-8th	Expanding the military spouse and service member's expedited licensure law to all applicants who have established or intend to establish residency in Kansas	On General Orders in House	02/03/2021 - House Committee Report recommending substitute bill be passed by Commerce, Labor and Economic Development
HB 2129 House Insurance and Pensions Committee	Providing for tobacco cessation benefits coverage under the state health care benefits program	In House Insurance and Pensions	02/03/2021 - House Scheduled Hearing in Insurance and Pensions: Wednesday, 2/10, 3:30 PM, Rm 218-N
HB 2179 House Health and Human Services Committee	Providing for the licensure of dental therapists	In House Health and Human Services	01/29/2021 - House Referred to Health and Human Services
HB 2340 House Federal and State Affairs Committee	Increasing the minimum age to 21 to purchase or possess cigarettes and tobacco products	In House Federal and State Affairs	02/17/2021 - House Scheduled Hearing in Federal and State Affairs: Monday, 2/22, 9:00 AM, Rm 346-S
HB 2370 House Commerce, Labor and Economic Development Committee	Prohibiting a criminal conviction from acting as a sole disqualification for occupational licensure and creating guidelines to follow when considering criminal convictions of an applicant for occupational licensure	In House Commerce, Labor and Economic Development	02/17/2021 - House Scheduled Hearing in Commerce, Labor and Economic Development: Wednesday, 2/24, 1:30 PM, Rm 346-S
HB 2386 House Health and Human Services Committee	Establishing requirements for the payment and reimbursement of dental services by a dental benefit plan	In House Health and Human Services	02/15/2021 - House Referred to Health and Human Services