

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

KDHA

Kansas Legislative Report

February 24, 2022

The 2022 Legislative Session has officially reached its halfway point, known as Turnaround. The procedural legislative deadline is significant as it effectively stops legislative bills unless they have passed one chamber or are have touched an exempt committee (budget, tax or federal and state affairs). This week the House and Senate debated and passed dozens of bills that now transition to the opposite chamber to restart the process. Bills subject to the Turnaround deadlines will not be able to receive consideration after February 24 unless they have been passed by one chamber.

The second half of session, beginning next week, will see less quantity of bills floating around but remaining bills generally have more momentum. March will see the process begin to pick up speed, with two weeks dedicated for committee work and the rest of the month reserved for debating bills and conference committees.

The development of the budget bills will occupy considerable time, along with consideration of state House and Senate redistricting maps. Food sales tax is expected to receive more consideration, with tax committees continuing their work on multiple approaches.

SB 129, known as the Dental Therapy Bill, was again not debated and passed by the Senate before the Turnaround deadline so the bill will officially be inactive after Thursday.

Other dental industry related bills were considered action while others meet a fate similar to SB 129. This week the House debated and passed HB 2386, which establishes requirements for the payment and reimbursement of dental services by a dental benefit plan. Previously in the House Committee on Health and Human Services, the Kansas Dental Association and Delta Dental supported the bill. The bill passed with a 118-3 vote and will now head to the Senate.

HB 2545 appeared to move to the inactive list as it was not passed by the House before Turnaround. This was a bill introduced by Kansas Dental Association that aimed to define non-covered dental benefits under health insurance plans.

The same fate appears to be in store for the Dental Association’s SB 121. This bill, introduced last session, 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.

The Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare wrapped up its business for the first half of session. The committee has not taken new action on the Senate Substitute for HB 2280, known as the COVID Treatment Bill, which mandates pharmacists to dispense prescriptions related to COVID treatment. The bill is not subject to legislative deadlines so action could still occur in March while the House has not reviewed similar language.

The Senate debated and passed Substitute for SB 34, pertains to agency rules and regulations that govern the industry, including the Kansas Dental Board. The bills sets up a process for agencies to formally review its administrative rules every five years. The bill is expected to be considered by the House next month.

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
Sub for SB 34 Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee	Requiring review of administrative rules and regulations every five years	Passed in Senate	02/23/2022 - Senate Emergencied to Final Action: Passed as amended; Yeas 32, Nays 7
SB 121 Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee	Updating certain provisions of the Kansas dental practice act	In Senate Public Health and Welfare	01/19/2022 - Senate Scheduled Hearing in Public Health and Welfare: Tuesday, 1/25, 8:30 AM, Rm 142-S
SB 129 Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee	Providing for the licensure of dental therapists	In Senate Public Health and Welfare	02/03/2022 - Senate Scheduled Discussion & Action in Public Health and Welfare: Monday, 2/7, 8:30 AM, Rm 142-S

SB 227	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
Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee			
HB 2061	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
House Federal and State Affairs Committee			
HB 2129	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
House Insurance and Pensions Committee			
HB 2179	Providing for the licensure of dental therapists	In House Health and Human Services	01/29/2021 - House Referred to Health and Human Services
House Health and Human Services Committee			
HB 2340	Increasing the minimum age to 21 to purchase or possess cigarettes and tobacco products	On General Orders in House	03/01/2021 - House Committee Report recommending bill be passed, by Federal and State Affairs
House Federal and State Affairs Committee			
HB 2370	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	02/12/2021 - House Referred to Commerce, Labor and Economic Development
House Commerce, Labor and Economic Development Committee			
HB 2386	Establishing requirements for the payment and reimbursement of dental services by a dental benefit plan	Passed in House	02/23/2022 - House Final Action: Passed as amended; Yeas 118, Nays 3
House Health and Human Services Committee			
HB 2545	Defining non-covered dental benefits under health insurance plans	In House Health and Human Services	02/09/2022 - House Scheduled Hearing in Health and Human Services: Monday, 2/14, 1:30 PM, Rm 112-N
House Health and Human Services Committee			

<p>HB 2546</p> <p>House Health and Human Services Committee</p>	<p>Requiring health benefits plans that provide dental care services to provide certain information, accept certain claims and not reduce certain payments</p>	<p>In House Health and Human Services</p>	<p>01/26/2022 - House Referred to Health and Human Services</p>
<p>HB 2672</p> <p>Bill Rhiley, R-80th</p>	<p>Creating the open borders for Kansas jobs act providing that professionals in certain occupations holding credentials from a state that has substantially equivalent requirements for such credentials as Kansas may be issued Kansas licenses or certifications</p>	<p>In House Commerce, Labor and Economic Development</p>	<p>02/10/2022 - House Referred to Commerce, Labor and Economic Development</p>