

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

KDHA

Kansas Legislative Report

March 17, 2022

March Madness has reached Topeka as most committees wrapped up their business for the year. Committees collectively recommended dozens of bills to move forward in the process while hundreds of other bills not receiving action will effectively be lost. There are just two weeks left before the April break, with next week planned for debates on the House and Senate floor and the final week of the month reserved for conference committees to reconcile differences between House and Senate versions.

Despite the committee work, the Senate and House kept busy on the floor debating bills. The Senate debated and passed its mega budget bill while the House prepares for its budget debate next week. The Senate also passed a redistricting map for state Senate districts while a handful of House redistricting maps surfaced too. On the tax side, the House Committee on Taxation recommended a bill that is assumed to be the House's attempt to reduce the state sales tax on food.

The Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare held a hearing on HB 2386, which establishes requirements for the payment and reimbursement of dental services by a dental benefit plan. In the hearing, the Kansas Dental Association testified in support of the bill with no opposition and Delta Dental as a neutral. The next day, the committee approved the bill and sent it to the Senate floor where it may be debated next week.

This was the final week for the health committees to meet. Beyond HB 2386, the Senate committee dedicated the balance of its meetings to review legislation pertaining to licensing of massage therapists and bills related to COVID treatment. On the House side, the Committee on Health and Human Services held a hearing related pharmacists' scope of practice.

Later in the session, the Health Conference Committees will meet to review previously passed health bills that have differences between the House and Senate versions but the standing health committees should be finished for the 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
Sub for SB 34 Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee	Requiring review of administrative rules and regulations every five years	On General Orders in House	03/17/2022 - House Committee Report recommending bill be passed as amended, by Federal and State Affairs
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 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
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	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	In Senate Public Health and Welfare	03/09/2022 - Senate Scheduled Hearing in Public Health and Welfare: Wednesday, 3/16, 8:30 AM, Rm 142-S
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			
HB 2546	Requiring health benefits plans that provide dental care services to provide certain information, accept certain claims and not reduce certain payments	In House Health and Human Services	01/26/2022 - House Referred to Health and Human Services
House Health and Human Services Committee			
HB 2672	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	In House Commerce, Labor and Economic Development	02/10/2022 - House Referred to Commerce, Labor and Economic Development
Bill Rhiley, R-80th			