

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

KDHA

Kansas Legislative Report

February 5, 2021

The 2021 Legislative Session continues at a faster than normal pace as the Legislature wraps up the fourth week. Committees met throughout the week to hold dozens of hearings while new bills continue to be introduced. The first major legislative deadline, known as Turnaround, is on the horizon scheduled for March 5. This is the deadline most bills must be passed by their original chamber of origin to remain alive in the process. To this end, action over the next four weeks leading up to that Turnaround date is expected to intensify.

The House and Senate budget subcommittees began reviewing budget proposals that will eventually be pieced together in the coming weeks. Other policy issues, including taxes, medical marijuana and Medicaid Expansion continue to capture headlines as proposals come forward.

KDHA's Dental Therapy Bills are known as HB 2179 and SB 129. The bills have been assigned to the House Health & Human Services Committee and Senate Public Health & Welfare Committee, respectively. No hearing has been scheduled at this time. HB 2179 and SB 129 are essentially identical to the version passed by the Senate 38-0 in 2018. This legislation was a compromise that was publicly supported by both KDHA and the Kansas Dental Association. Though it remains to be seen what official position KDA will take in 2021, KDHA remains supportive of the compromise effort approved by the 2018 Senate.

Another dental related bill was introduced in the Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee. SB 121 proposes that if a dentist is providing dental services outside a dental office, each patient shall be provided with the dentist's name, contact telephone number, after hours contact information for emergencies and, upon the patient's request, the dentist's license information. Moreover, the bill proposed that a dentist or contract for dental services shall not require a patient to sign an agreement that attempts to limit the patient's ability to file a complaint with the Kansas Dental Board. No hearing has been scheduled at this time.

Licensure bills continue to receive attention. HB 2066, known as Licensure Reciprocity Bill, provides that people licensed out of state, current or former military and military spouses who move to Kansas a fast track to obtain a Kansas license. The House Commerce Committee debated the bill and added an amendment that clarifies the licensure boards can say no, if their

path to licensure was very different from Kansas. The Kansas Dental Board did not weigh in on the bill.

Another licensure bill, called the Right to Earn a Living Act (SB 10), was considered by the Senate Commerce Committee last week but has not been considered for action at this time. SB 10 calls for every regulatory agency to provide a comprehensive review of all occupational rules and regulations and occupational licenses that justifies its function, impact on workers, consumer choices and cost and comparison to other states. The Kansas Dental Board did not weigh in on the bill.

Likewise, no action has been scheduled at this time for SB 34, which proposes for all administrative rules and regulations currently on the books to expire after five years unless the agency and Legislature take action to renew the regulation.

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	Providing for the licensure of dental therapists	In Senate Public Health and Welfare	02/03/2021 - Senate Referred to Public Health and Welfare

Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee			
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	02/04/2021 - Senate Referred to Commerce
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