



KANSAS LEGISLATIVE REPORT

JANUARY 25, 2019

WEEK TWO IN THE BOOKS

The second week was a short week, due to the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday and inclement weather cancellations Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning. The week was highlighted by taxes, Medicaid expansion, budget reaction and general overview of issues in committees.

GOVERNOR KELLY NAMES MEDICAID WORKING GROUP

Governor Kelly named a bipartisan group of health industry stakeholders to work on and promote expansion of Medicaid. The group will assist the Governor in finalizing a Medicaid expansion bill that will be introduced to the legislature by January 29 – Kansas Day. House leadership is calling for her to open up the meetings of this working group to the public and press.

GOVERNOR KELLY SIGNS EXECUTIVE ORDER FOR GOVERNOR'S EDUCATION COUNCIL

Governor Kelly signed an executive order to continue the Governor's Education Council that started under Governor Jeff Colyer in 2018. The Council has a goal of improving outcomes for Kansas kids and will provide an opportunity for connecting educators from Pre-K through higher education with leaders in the business community.

EDUCATION FUNDING BILLS INTRODUCED

Bills to fund education according to the Governor's budget were introduced this week. They are companion bills, SB44 and HB2078 that will be referred to the Senate Select Committee on Education Finance and the House Committee on K-12 Education Budget. No hearings have been set. It has been reported that the House leadership may be looking at cutting some dollars instead of adding, but that is yet to be seen.

SENATE PRESIDENT WAGLE APPOINTS NEW TAX COMMITTEE

Senator Wagle appointed a new Select Committee on Federal Tax Code Implementation that will narrowly focus on the issues of the changes in the 2017 federal income tax cuts and how the changes flow through to Kansas taxpayers. The Committee will hold hearings on SB22 next week Tuesday, Wednesday with a goal of acting on the bill on Thursday. SB22 includes itemized deductions, providing for deferred foreign income, GILTI, business interest capital contributions and FFDIC premiums income tax modifications and how to have Kansas decouple from the federal tax code implemented in 2017. Discussions will continue on whether or not there is enough information at this time to determine that there is additional revenue coming in from the tax changes at the federal level.



TRANSPORTATION TASK FORCE REPORT

The final report from the 2018 Joint Legislative Transportation Vision Task Force will be presented on Monday, January 28 to the members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee. The House Appropriations Committee has not scheduled their review.

HOUSE COMMERCE COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

The House Commerce Committee will be discussing how to meet the employment needs of the Kansas economy this session. Presentations this week included the Greater Kansas City Chamber and an update on the aviation industry in Kansas. On the agenda next week will include briefings on the economic development programs and the Kansas economic outlook.

NEXT WEEK

Monday

- House Rural Revitalization – property tax impact briefing
- House Commerce Labor and Economic Development – overview of Kansas Economic Development Initiatives and Programs
- House Taxation – briefing on internet sales, KDOR
- House Insurance – overview of Association Health Plans; hearing on two association health plan bills
- Senate Ways and Means – update on Transportation Task Force

Tuesday

- House Appropriations – briefing on Kansas Lottery and Gaming Facilities
- House Rural Revitalization – briefing on access to high speed broadband
- Senate Commerce and House Commerce Labor and Economic Development – Kansas Outlook by Jeremy Hill, WSU
- House Taxation – GILTI and Repatriation, KDOR
- Senate Financial Institutions and Insurance – association health plan bill hearings

Wednesday

- House Federal and State Affairs hearing on sports gaming managed by racetrack gaming
- House Rural Revitalization – briefing on access to high speed broadband
- House Local Government – overview of KAC and LKM services
- House Insurance – hearing on three association health plan bills
- House Taxation – hearing on HB2043 – review of tax credits, exemptions and economic development programs. Link to HB2043:
http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2019_20/measures/documents/hb2043_00_0000.pdf
- Senate Commerce – briefing on Innovation in Barriers to Employment
- Senate Transportation presentation by KDOT interim Secretary Julie Lorenz
- Senate Financial Institutions and Insurance – association health plan bill hearings



Thursday

- House Appropriations - Briefing on the Department of Commerce Urban and Rural Development
- House Rural Revitalization – briefing on rural community collaboration and city-county collaboration
- House Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications – audit of the Kansas 911 system
- House Commerce Labor and Economic Development – hearing on HB2006 – requiring the department of commerce to create a database of economic development incentive program information. Link to HB2006:
http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2019_20/measures/documents/hb2006_00_0000.pdf
- Senate Commerce – briefing on Innovation in Barriers to Employment
- Senate Financial Institutions and Insurance – association health plan bill hearings

LINK TO MONDAY, JANUARY 28TH CALENDARS:

http://kslegislature.org/li/b2019_20/chamber/documents/daily_calendar_house_20190125112211.pdf

http://kslegislature.org/li/b2019_20/chamber/documents/daily_calendar_senate_20190125094733.pdf

QUESTIONS?

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact me at:

Sandy Braden
President, Braden Heidner Lowe & Associates
Email: sandy@bhlandassociates.com
Office: 785-233-4512