



KDHA

Kansas Legislative Report

February 3, 2017

The Legislature has completed the fourth week of the 2017 session. As expected, committee activity has substantially increased compared to previous weeks. House and Senate leaders are working toward the Turnaround deadline (the date by which most bills must be passed in their chamber of origin or be dead for the session) as they consider all types of policy issues.

The state budget received a boost this week with initial January revenue receipts reported at \$24M above estimates. This news is highly impactful and helpful to committees working to fix the \$350M shortfall for the current fiscal year which ends June 30. This means the state will need to come up with fewer cuts/revenue enhancements in the Rescission Bill.

Tax policy continues to capture headlines. The House Tax Committee has reviewed several existing sales tax exemptions. The House Tax Committee also held hearings on a portion of the Governor's revenue plan dealing with sin taxes. The plan would add a full dollar per pack on cigarettes and increase taxes on liquor and other tobacco products. No formal action has been taken by the committee.

Guns were in the headlines during the week as both Senate and House committees considered no-guns-on-campus bills. The Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee killed a bill that would have banned carrying concealed weapons on college campuses.

School finance is receiving more attention with the House K-12 Budget Committee creating subcommittees to focus on specific policy pieces. One school finance plan, HB 2142, has made it in to bill form. One other plan has been introduced but not published. No plan or concept has been formally considered in either legislative chamber. The Senate has yet to create its school finance committee.

Health policy continues to move fast with both health committees meeting to hold hearings and work bills. The House Health Committee is planning three days' worth of hearings on a Medicaid Expansion Bill later this month. All types of healthcare bills are being considered by the committee with some making it further down the process.

Nothing new to report on the DT Bill front. The major news in health committee is the hearings next week on Medicaid Expansion.

February will be a very busy month as legislators and committees rush to beat the Turnaround deadline.

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

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Bill Number and Sponsor	Bill Subject	Current Status	Last Action
HB 2023 House Taxation Committee	Determination of Kansas adjusted gross income; sunseting certain modifications	In House Taxation	01/20/2017 - House Scheduled Hearing (cont.) in Taxation: Monday, 1/23, 3:30 PM, Rm 346-S
HB 2064 House Health and Human Services Committee	Establishing the KanCare bridge to a healthy Kansas program	In House Health and Human Services	02/01/2017 - House Scheduled Hearings in Health and Human Services: Neut - Monday, 2/6; Pro - Wednesday, 2/8; Opp - Thursday, 2/9, 1:30 PM, Rm 112-N
HB 2119 House Health and Human Services Committee	Establishing non-covered services for dental benefits under health insurance	In House Health and Human Services	01/25/2017 - House Scheduled Hearing in Health and Human Services: Wednesday, 2/1, 1:30 PM, Rm 546-S
HB 2139 House Health and Human Services Committee	Licensure of dental therapists	In House Health and Human Services	01/25/2017 - House Referred to Health and Human Services