

THE ADVOCATE

A WEEKLY UPDATE
FROM THE KANSAS
LEGISLATURE

ADVOCACY THAT WORKS



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WICHITA REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

2026 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA



Intro

The 2026 legislative session continues to fly by, with another week in the books. Major deadlines are approaching, including the deadline for non-exempt committees to request bill drafts, which is today, Monday, February 2. Friday is the last day for non-exempt committees to introduce bills into the chamber. The breakneck pace of the budget continued, with hearings for the massive Department of Aging and Disabilities Services budget in both chambers' budget committees. Progress did fall behind this week after committees were cancelled on Wednesday when both chambers were locked in debate on multiple controversial pieces of legislation.

There has been little movement on the property tax front this week. While SCR1616, which caps assessed valuation increases at 3%, was passed out of the Senate Tax Committee early in the session, it hasn't been brought to the floor. The House is not keen on the proposal and resoundingly rejected a similar one last year, but it faces significant pressure on the critical property tax issue, as all 125 House members are up for reelection in November.

To start the week, the House Health and Human Services Committee passed [HB2218](#) favorably, which would, pending FDA approval, legalize the therapeutic use of synthetic psilocybin for treatment-resistant depression and PTSD. On Tuesday, [HB2464](#), which would extend the aviation workforce tax credits for 10 years, was heard in the House Commerce Committee and passed favorably on Thursday. The bill would continue a successful program that has helped attract and retain talent to the state's critical aviation manufacturing industry. Additionally, [SB360](#), which would create much-needed regulation and transparency for Pharmacy Benefit Managers and provide relief for ailing local, independent pharmacies, had a hearing on Wednesday.

Contentious Debate

Last week saw some of the first major pieces of legislation pass across the floor this year. In a controversial move, Republicans passed [SB244](#), a so-called "bathroom bill," in a move known as a "gut and go" after several hours of House floor debate on Wednesday. The House Committee on Judiciary held a hearing on [HB2426](#), a bill introduced by the Attorney General to clean up the Women's Bill of Rights, which was challenged in court after passing last session. Rep. Bob Lewis (R-Garden City) offered an amendment to include language requiring individuals to use the bathroom of their biological sex in public buildings, and then the committee moved to place that language as a substitute for [SB244](#), which was heard in the Senate last year. This allowed the Senate to pass the bill through a motion to concur.

House Democrats, in a marathon debate session that went from 11 AM to 6 PM, decried the move as lacking transparency and a departure from normal procedure. Republicans defended it, saying the debate over the issue wasn't new or unexpected and that this process occurs frequently in every session. Rep. Lewis offered clarifying amendments on the floor, which were adopted, and the Democrats offered a series of 13 amendments, which were rejected over the course of the hours-long session. Immediately after its passage through general orders, House Majority Leader Chris Croft (R-Overland Park) moved to suspend the rules and take final action on the bill. After passing 87-36, the Senate succeeded on their motion to concur on a partisan vote of 30-9 after only a short 23 minutes.

Also on Wednesday, while the House was debating [SB244](#), the Senate passed [SCR1615](#), which honors the life and legacy of Charlie Kirk and recognizes October 14 as Charlie Kirk Free Speech Day, carried by Vice President Tim Shallenburger (R-Baxter Springs). A fiery Senate President Ty Masterson (R-Andover) defended the bill and Charlie Kirk from comments by opponents of the resolution, which he called "appalling" misrepresentation. Senator David Haley (D-Kansas City) offered an amendment that would have included President Donald J. Trump in the resolution, and Senator Patrick Schmidt (D-Topeka) introduced an amendment to include Alex Pretti, who was shot while interfering with ICE operations. Both amendments were ruled non-germane by the rules committee, and both rulings were challenged by the amendments' proponents. After roll call votes, both rulings were upheld. The resolution eventually passed on another partisan 30-9 vote, with one member not present.

Earlier in the week, the Senate GOP debated [SB254](#), to prohibit people unlawfully present in the United States from receiving any state or local public benefit in accordance with applicable federal law. In a razor-thin 18-19 vote, they rejected an amendment offered by Sen. Vice President Shallenburger to exempt in-state tuition from the list of public benefits excluded from this population. During the late Wednesday session, the Senate passed the bill again on party lines, 30-9.

Republican Gubernatorial Primary Debate

Six Republican candidates for governor squared off against each other last Friday afternoon in the GOP primary debate. Senate President Ty Masterson, former Governor Jeff Colyer, Secretary of State Scott Schwab, businessman Phillip Sarnecki, former Johnson County Commissioner Charlotte O'Hara, and businesswoman Joy Eakins were in Wichita for the debate. Notably, Insurance Commissioner Vicki Schmidt did not participate in the debate after declining to donate \$10,000 to the state Republican Party and refusing to sign the agreement. Candidates Stacy Rogers and podcaster Doug Billings did not qualify after failing to reach fundraising requirements.

The candidates spent the debate pitching their conservative bona fides in this crowded primary. Jeff Colyer contrasted his year as governor with the last eight under Governor Laura Kelly's leadership, pointing to increased spending and declining test scores, while Sen. President Masterson touted his accomplishments leading the Senate on long-time Republican priorities such as protecting women's sports, the constitutional amendment to reform the Supreme Court, and a series of tax cuts. The candidates were unanimous in support of the constitutional amendment to elect Supreme Court Justices and opposition to abortion and recreational marijuana.

Phillip Sarnecki and Joy Eakins, both with business backgrounds, painted themselves as political outsiders attempting to bring change to "politics as usual." The elected officials defended themselves against these attacks, with Secretary Schwab arguing that his long tenure in public office brings needed experience, and President Masterson countered the "career politician" label by saying he was a "career fighter" for Kansans.

Tax

The tax committees of the Legislature have continued to hear bills and listen to informational presentations this week. The House committee has focused primarily on hearing bills, while in contrast, the Senate committee has worked legislation and budgets, alongside hearing informational presentations.

On Tuesday, the Senate heard an informational presentation by the Legislative Post Audit (LPA) on property tax exemptions and a hearing on the Board of Tax Appeals (BOTA), before working their budget on Thursday. The LPA determined that the state lost up to \$14 million in forgone revenue due to property exemptions, but this burden was placed more predominantly on counties, which lost an estimated \$1 billion. The primary source of tax-exempt property is university-owned real estate, which totals \$4.5 billion, \$4.4 billion of which is exempt from property taxes.

The Senate favorably passed the budget for the Board of Tax Appeals (BOTA) out of committee, granting the agency \$117,000 in requested ARPA funds, but without the agency's recommendation for 2 FTE positions. They also worked and passed [SB74](#), a bill to create a refundable income tax credit for expenditures for lockable gun and ammunition storage, favorably out of committee, with an amendment proposed by Chairwoman Tyson (R-Parker) to remove several miscellaneous tax exemptions that are no longer used. Additionally, sparks flew when the Senate committee heard a presentation on the Department of Revenue's \$19.1 million SGF budget. The committee expressed significant frustration with the cost of driver's licenses and license plates, with increases of \$2.5 million in fiscal year 2026 and \$1.7 million in fiscal year 2027. Alongside this, a request to increase FTE positions (10.6 to 11 in 2027) prompted confusion and concern among many on the committee, with Senator Owens (R-Heston) saying, "Make it make sense." Senator Peck (R-Havana) also used the opportunity to confront the department about their towing policies for legislators' vehicles.

The House Taxation committee only met twice last week, cancelling a meeting on Wednesday due to the lengthy debate on the House floor. On Monday, they held a hearing for [HB2430](#), a bill to enact the insurance savings account act. Though there were only two proponents with no opposing or neutral testimony for the bill, there was significant discussion among the committee about how the account would act in comparison to over savings accounts, such as the first home buyer's account, and what financial impact it might have. On Tuesday there was a hearing for [HB2408](#), recognizing community land trust and fair market value.

Also on Tuesday were hearings on a pair of pro-business tax reforms. [HB2440](#), which would exclude owners of oil leases from having to file requests for property tax exemptions, had a hearing. This bill would make it more convenient for oil producers to obtain exemptions, providing faster access to much needed tax relief and operating capital. [HB2406](#), which expands the commercial and industrial machinery property tax exemption to machinery bought before 2006. This would provide additional relief to many small, family-owned businesses, or even larger manufacturers with massive, expensive, aging equipment.

Introduced Bills of Note:

[SB401](#) - Requiring the county appraiser to conduct a new physical inspection before increasing the valuation of residential real property by more than 15%.

Health

On Monday, House Health and Human Services committee passed out [HB2218](#) favorably. The bill would move crystalline polymorph psilocybin to schedule IV of the uniform controlled substance act if the FDA approved the drug, which is currently in stage III trials. The treatment has shown to be effective for PTSD, desperately needed when suicide claims the life of 22 veterans a day in the US.

[SB360](#), which enacts the Kansas Consumer Prescription Protection and Accountability Act and provides for the regulation and registration of pharmacy benefits managers, had a hearing on Wednesday in the Senate Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee. Proponents, such as independent pharmacy owners, warned of pharmacy closures due to unfair PBM practices. The Kansas Department of Insurance assured the committee that the provisions of the bill had already been litigated, so injunctions against the state are not a concern. While opponents were concerned with potential cost increases, the West Virginia Office of Insurance Commissioner testified that similar reform in their state had not led to such increases.

The Appropriations Committee held a hearing on Thursday on [HB2555](#), which would establish state oversight of the Rural Health Transformation Fund. Several committee members lamented that the bill did not give the legislature enough say in how the \$221m award would be spent, while longtime Appropriations chairman, Rep. Troy Waymaster (R-Bunker Hill), expressed his “heartburn” over American Rescue Act Plan funds that he feels were wasted, but explained to the committee that the legislation could not require approval from the legislature for expenditure of the funds due to the short timeline given to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment by the federal government.

The House Health and Human Services committee has also aggressively pursued scope of practice expansion this biennium, with hearings on [HB2366](#), which would expand the scope of practice for naturopathic doctors, and [HB2157](#), which would allow pharmacists to test and treat COVID-19, happening last week. This comes in the wake of the House’s passage of scope of practice expansion for Optometrists last year, [HB2223](#), which had a hearing in Senate Public Health and Welfare on Thursday morning.

Introduced Bills of Note:

[HB2550](#) – Requiring certain 340B entities to report annually to the Kansas department of insurance on certain costs, savings and payments made under the federal 340B drug pricing program.

[HB2551](#) – Enacting the Kansas pharmacy services administrative organization act.

[HB2555](#) – Requiring grant applications, expenditure information, reports and other documentation concerning the rural health transformation program to be presented and provided to the state finance council, house of representatives committee on appropriations, senate committee on ways and means and legislative budget committee.

[HB2556](#) – Prohibiting certain terms in a contract between a health insurer and a dentist and requiring that reviews, audits or investigations of healthcare providers concerning healthcare provider claims be completed within six months.

[HB2564](#) – Providing for the election of alternative payment methods by a dental provider and allowing such payment method to remain in force for the duration of a contract with a dental benefit plan.

[SB414](#) – Authorizing the secretary of corrections to enter into a memorandum of understanding to provide money from the evidence-based programs account to residential facilities with behavioral health crisis intervention services for juveniles.

[SB431](#) – Establishing the remote practice of pharmacy, requiring certain conditions for such practice and limiting activities performed under such practice.

Economic Development

Economic development activity last week focused on legislative tools to strengthen Kansas' competitiveness through workforce development and industry retention.

The House Committee on Commerce heard and worked [HB2464](#), which would extend the sunset on Kansas' aviation workforce tax credits. Stakeholders emphasized aviation's role as a cornerstone, export-driven industry that supports tens of thousands of high-wage jobs across the state and generates significant economic activity beyond Kansas' borders. Testimony highlighted that the existing credit has been an effective recruitment and retention tool in an increasingly competitive global labor market, particularly for highly skilled aerospace workers. The bill would extend the program for an additional ten years, with supporters encouraging lawmakers to view the credit as a long-term economic development strategy rather than a temporary incentive. The committee passed the bill out favorably on Thursday with limited discussion and no opposition or amendments.

House Commerce is also scheduled to hear [HB2346](#) tomorrow, legislation that would establish the Kansas Sports Tourism Grant Program. The bill proposes a performance-based matching grant structure designed to help Kansas communities compete for large-scale sporting events that generate overnight visitation and out-of-state spending. Proponents of the bill have stated that many competing states already use similar grant programs and that the absence of a statewide tool puts Kansas communities at a disadvantage when bidding on national and regional events.

The program includes several accountability features, including verified economic impact, post-event reporting, geographic balance provisions to ensure statewide participation, and a sunset clause allowing future legislative review.

[HB2466](#) will be heard today and would extend the Angel Investor Tax Credit to 2031. The credit has played a large role in encouraging early-stage venture investment, attracting out-of-state capital, and connecting entrepreneurs with experienced angel investors. Supporters will emphasize that the program generates a strong multiplier effect by leveraging private capital and has helped expand the state's entrepreneurial and venture ecosystem.

Introduced bills of note:

[HB2580](#) – Establishing the Kansas international trade commission to further international trade between Kansas and other countries, in particular Ireland, Japan and Taiwan, and creating the Kansas international trade commission fund.

[HB2597](#) – Establishing a right to paid sick leave for Kansas employees and setting forth minimum requirements and rules for the provision of such sick leave.

[HB2598](#) – Enacting the Kansas paid family leave act.

[HB2602](#) – Establishing requirements for a portable benefit plan for independent contractors, determining types of contributions to such plans and providing a subtraction modification for Kansas income tax purposes.

[SB393](#) – Authorizing the sale of alcoholic beverages 24 hours a day, seven days a week for the duration of the FIFA 2026 world cup.

SB400 – Requiring data centers to use closed-loop cooling systems to mitigate water consumption.

SB413 – Prohibiting counsel from suggesting an amount of damages for noneconomic loss in civil actions.

SB429 – Extending the sunset for the angel investor tax credit to 2031.

Local Government

The Senate Federal and State Affairs committee passed HB2331 favorably on Thursday after a litany of amendments, clarifying and refining the language, addressing concerns brought by the Office of Veterans Services, and codifying continuing education hours for embalmers in statute. The bill was brought by Sedgwick County to address problems stemming from unclaimed remains of deceased persons.

Chairman of House Elections, Rep. Pat Proctor (R-Leavenworth), continues to pump bills out of his committee at an incredible pace. He held four hearings this week, notably HCR5021 and HB2448. The former resolution proposes an amendment to the Constitution that would enshrine the state law requiring a photo ID to vote. The latter bill, which would require a driver's license to indicate citizenship status, proved controversial. Clay Barker, General Counsel for the Secretary of State, a proponent of the bill, was pestered with questions from committee Democrats, who felt the measure would allow for profiling and discrimination, while he contended it was simply another preventative measure to avoid illegal voting. Committee members sparred during heated questioning, with Chairman Proctor cutting off multiple lines of questioning while other members accused each other and an opponent conferee of impugning the committee's motives.

Introduced bills of note:

HB2571 – Requiring cost-sharing agreements between municipalities for the maintenance of shared roads.

HB2588 – Providing for statewide electrician licensing by the board of technical professions.

SB391 – Prohibiting cities and counties from adopting or enforcing any ordinance or resolution that requires landlords to lease housing to tenants receiving financial assistance from or through the housing choice voucher program or any other housing assistance program or that otherwise restricts a landlord's ability to consider the income source of a prospective tenant.

SB394 – Clarifying the signature verification requirements for advance voting ballot envelopes and providing for the repeal of advance voting statutes, except where advance voting is required by federal law, if a state or federal court issues a final order or judgment which is not subject to appeal invalidating such signature verification requirements.

SB404 – Modifying the registration period for personalized license plates and authorizing county treasurers to charge increased fees for vehicle registration transactions.

SB416 – Authorizing interior inspections of residential property without the consent of the occupant pursuant to an administrative warrant or when there is probable cause of imminent danger related to health and safety.

SB417 – Establishing requirements for the development, construction, modification, maintenance, operation and decommissioning of certain industrial energy facilities and providing jurisdiction to the state corporation commission to control and permit such development, construction, modification, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of such facilities.

Utilities

The House Committee on Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications met on Thursday to hear HB2544. HB2544 would create a state fund to help reimburse telecommunications providers that are required by cities to relocate facilities located in public rights-of-way, such as during road or infrastructure projects. The bill would transfer \$2 million from the State General Fund, sourced from insurance premium tax revenues, into a new Relocation Reimbursement Assistance Fund. Eligible providers could receive full or prorated reimbursement depending on available funds.

Telecommunications companies testified that relocation costs are unpredictable, costly, and not recoverable through rates, unlike regulated utilities. The committee took no final action on the bill.

The Senate Utilities Committee heard testimony on SB379 on Thursday, which would authorize the State 911 Board to establish a statewide, voluntary program for Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) and telecommunicator CPR (TCPR), including medical direction and quality assurance. Bill drafters emphasized that the proposal does not mandate participation by counties or PSAPs; instead, it establishes a framework to remove financial barriers and enable local agencies to opt into standardized protocols and training. Committee questions focused heavily on whether the program was truly optional, how the estimated \$300,000 first-year cost would be used, and whether funding would require a specific legislative appropriation.

Proponents included representatives from the SB11 Study Committee, the State 911 Board, and the Kansas Sheriffs' Association. Opponent testimony from the American Heart Association argued that the program should be mandatory, citing gaps in TCPR coverage across Kansas and pointing to mandates in neighboring states. However, committee discussion reflected concern about operational realities in small and rural call centers and ongoing costs beyond the first year. The committee also passed a recommendation reappointing Dwight Keen as a KCC Commissioner.

Introduced bills of note:

HB2557 – Enacting and joining with other states in the interstate compact for the placement of children and authorizing the administration and implementation of the compact.

HB2586 – Requiring revenues received by telecommunications service providers for the provision of broadband services to be calculated when determining gross receipts under a city franchise.

SB417 – Establishing requirements for the development, construction, modification, maintenance, operation and decommissioning of certain industrial energy facilities and providing jurisdiction to the state corporation commission to control and permit such development, construction, modification, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of such facilities.

Important Dates

February 6 - Last day for non-exempt committees to introduce bills

February 16 - Last day for committees to meet before Turnaround Day

February 19 - (Turnaround) Last day for non-exempt bills to pass original chamber

The Week Ahead

The following bills are scheduled to receive hearings this week.

Monday, February 2

10:30AM in Senate Federal and State Affairs

Hearing on SB94 - Clarifying the signature verification requirements for advance voting ballot envelopes and providing for the repeal of advance voting statutes, except where advance voting is required by federal law, if a state or federal court issues a final order or judgment which is not subject to appeal invalidating such signature verification requirements.

1:30PM in House Child Welfare and Foster Care

Hearing on HB2524 - Permitting the secretary for children and families to license family foster homes when certain persons reside in such home and creating an appeal process for family foster homes when licenses are not granted.

1:30PM in House Health and Human Services

Hearing on HB2506 - Establishing the addiction counselor apprentice license and setting fees for such license.

1:30PM in House Commerce, Labor, and Economic Development

Hearing on HB2481 - Removing the two-bedroom requirement to qualify as hotel, motel or tourist court requiring collection of tax from all such qualifying rentals.

Hearing on HB2566 - Extending the sunset for the angel investor tax credit to 2031. 3:30PM in House Insurance

Hearing on HB2551 - Enacting the Kansas pharmacy services administrative organization act.

3:30PM in House Taxation

Hearing on HB2470 - Providing that certain municipalities may designate the entire municipality within a neighborhood revitalization area under the Kansas neighborhood revitalization act.

Hearing on HB2441 - Adding compressed natural gas or liquefied natural gas to alternative fuels that are eligible for the income tax credit for alternative-fueled motor vehicle property expenditures.

Tuesday, February 3

9:00AM in House Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications

Hearing on [HB2586](#) - Requiring revenues received by telecommunications service providers for the provision of broadband services to be calculated when determining gross receipts under a city franchise.

9:30AM in Senate Assessment and Taxation

Hearing on [SB329](#) - Requiring the county appraiser to submit a single property appraisal report at the valuation appeal hearing before the regular division of the state board of tax appeals.

Hearing on [SB332](#) - Excluding buyer's premiums from the sale price of property purchased at auction for real estate sales validation questionnaire and property tax valuation purposes.

9:30AM in Senate Local Government, Transparency, and Ethics

Hearing on [SB124](#) - Imposing unilateral annexation restrictions on cities and expanding the causes of action for landowners to challenge such annexations.

10:30AM in Senate Judiciary

Hearing on [SB414](#) - Authorizing the secretary of corrections to enter into a memorandum of understanding to provide money from the evidence-based programs account to residential facilities with behavioral health crisis intervention services for juveniles.

10:30AM in Senate Federal and State Affairs

Hearing on [SB261](#) - Authorizing the director of alcoholic beverage control to issue certain licenses to persons convicted of certain felonies if such conviction is more than 10 years old.

1:30PM in Senate Commerce

Hearing on [SB418](#) - Enacting the by-right housing development act to provide a streamlined permit approval process for by-right housing developments, allowing third-party review of new residential construction development documents and inspection of improvements, requiring political subdivisions to allow certain building provisions for single-family residences of a certain size, excluding owner initiated rezoning to a single-family residential district from protest petition provisions and providing for all land within the corporate limits of a city to be considered zoned for single-family residential use.

1:30PM in House Child Welfare and Foster Care

Hearing on [HB2557](#) - Enacting and joining with other states in the interstate compact for the placement of children and authorizing the administration and implementation of the compact.

1:30PM in House Health and Human Services

Hearing on [HB2478](#) - Requiring that advanced practice registered nurses and registered nurse anesthetists submit to a criminal history check upon application for a nursing license.

3:30PM in House Elections

Hearing on [HB2453](#) - Requiring applications for advance voting ballots be filed by the 14th day prior to election day, that advance voting in person be completed by 12:00 p.m. on the Sunday prior to election day, extending the time for transmittal of advance voting ballots to 22 days prior to an election and ending the time for voter registration at 23 days prior to election day.

Hearing on [HB2503](#) - Repealing the mail ballot election act.

Wednesday, February 4

9:00AM in House Financial Institutions and Pensions

Hearing on [HB2591](#) - Authorizing financial institutions to report suspected financial exploitation of an adult account holder to a designated agency, notify any adult designated as a trusted contact by such account holder of suspected financial exploitation and place a temporary hold on certain transactions or disbursements.

Hearing on [HB2411](#) - Reducing the required waiting period for employment of KPERS retirants hired by a school district for a covered position that requires a teaching license or certificate.

9:00AM in House Federal and State Affairs

Hearing on [HB2507](#) - Removing the requirement for migratory waterfowl stamps to be validated by a signature across the face of each such stamp and increasing the fees for such stamps.

9:30AM in Senate Assessment and Taxation

Hearing on [SB332](#) - Excluding buyer's premiums from the sale price of property purchased at auction for real estate sales validation questionnaire and property tax valuation purposes.

9:30AM in Senate Financial Institutions and Insurance

Hearing on [SB330](#) - Enacting the ensuring transparency in prior authorization act to impose requirements and limitations on the use of prior authorization in healthcare.

1:30PM in Senate Education

Hearing on [SB419](#) - Enacting the Kansas intellectual rights and knowledge act, providing a civil cause of action and penalties for violations of such act and authorizing students and student associations to exercise political and ideological beliefs, values and missions.

1:30PM in House Health and Human Services

Hearing on [HB2533](#) - Enacting the occupational therapy licensure compact to provide interstate practice privileges to occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants.

3:30PM in House Insurance

Hearing on [HB2550](#) - Requiring certain 340b entities to report annually to the Kansas Department of Insurance on certain costs, savings and payments made under the federal 340b drug pricing program.

3:30PM in House Judiciary

Hearing on [HB2480](#) - Creating an exception to certain mandatory reporting obligations for licensed social workers when working under the supervision of an attorney and permitting an attorney to require a licensed social worker to keep ethical obligations of attorney-client privilege while working under the supervision of such attorney.

3:30PM in House Taxation

Hearing on [HB2469](#) - Expanding the income tax credit for qualified railroad track maintenance expenditures to allow credits against certain premium taxes, privilege fees and privilege taxes and allowing the transfer of unused credits to any individual or entity subject to such taxes.

Thursday, February 5

9:00AM in House Federal and State Affairs

Hearing on [HB2504](#) - Prohibiting cities and counties from restricting the discretion of landlords not to rent residential or commercial property on grounds including prospective tenants receipt of housing assistance or eviction or criminal history, and permitting cities and counties to prohibit discrimination by landlords on the basis of receipt of veterans benefits.

10:30AM in Senate Judiciary

Hearing on [SB413](#) - Prohibiting counsel from suggesting an amount of damages for noneconomic loss in civil actions.

1:30PM in Senate Utilities

Hearing on [SB380](#) - Requiring retail electric suppliers to provide nondiscriminatory rates and services to entities that provide electric vehicle charging services and prohibiting any costs and expenses associated with a retail electric supplier's electric vehicle charging stations from being recovered in electric rates.

1:30PM in House Commerce, Labor, and Economic Development

Hearing on [HB2580](#) - Establishing the Kansas international trade commission to further international trade between Kansas and other countries, in particular Ireland, Japan and Taiwan, and creating the Kansas international trade commission fund.

Hearing on [HB2588](#) - Providing for statewide electrician licensing by the board of technical professions.

3:30PM in House Judiciary

Hearing on [HB2537](#) - Increasing the penalties for the crime of sexual extortion when an offender is 18 years of age or older and the victim is less than 18 years of age or a dependent adult, creating the crimes of aggravated sexual extortion causing great bodily harm and aggravated sexual extortion causing death and requiring the attorney general to prepare and provide educational materials and information concerning such crimes.

Hearing on [HB2594](#) - Modifying the elements of the crime of blackmail related to threatened dissemination of any videotape, photograph, film or image of another identifiable person who is nude or engaged in sexual activity by removing the connection to breach of privacy and describing the content of the videotape, photograph, film or image.

3:30PM in House Taxation

Hearing on [HB2385](#) - Authorizing cities and counties to propose an earnings tax for ballot question and to levy such tax if approved by the electors of a city or county, requiring resubmission of the question, if approved, to the electors every 10 years, allowing certain credits and exemptions against the tax, providing for deductions by public and private employers of the tax from employee earnings and providing that revenue from any such tax be pledged for certain purposes.

Hearing on [HB2457](#) - Restricting residential homestead property taxes to not more than the established base of property taxes owed for individuals 65 years of age and older and eliminating the property tax exemption for certain commercial properties used for healthcare when in competition with other non-exempt properties.

Helpful Links to Monitor the Action

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