

# Journal of the House

## TWELFTH DAY

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HALL OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
TOPEKA, KS, Wednesday, January 29, 2025, 11:00 a.m.

The House met pursuant to adjournment with Speaker pro tempore Carpenter in the chair.

The roll was called with 115 members present.

Reps. Alcala, Collins, Helgerson, Johnson, Lewis, Neelly, Roeser and Simmons were excused on verified illness.

Reps. Poetter Parshall and Sawyer were excused on excused absence by the Speaker.

Prayer by Chaplain Holmes:

Dear Father.

Thank You for giving these Representatives the opportunity, strength,  
and vision to wisely weave good things into the fabric of Kansas.

Would you remind them, there is no challenge to great,  
no setback to disappointing and no opposition to strong  
when they corporately work together.

O God, form a bond between these in this chamber,  
so they can move together into good days, yes, even better days,  
than they can think or imagine.

We read in the Book of Proverbs,  
“A person will be satisfied with good by the fruit of their words.

And the deeds of their hands will return to them.

The way of a fool is right in their own eyes,  
but a wise person listens to counsel.”

Give each the courage to ask the tough questions,  
and the humility to accept the fact they cannot always be right.

And Father when the day is over and each review  
their deeds might they be satisfied because they have done well.

We lift our Governor to You today and ask that you would bestow  
wise counselors in her midst as she leads our State.

We pray for the President of this great land called America.

Might You also surround him with wise counselors  
 as he makes decisions for our Country.  
 I pray this in Jesus Name. Amen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rep. White.

### **CELEBRATION OF KANSAS DAY**

In celebration of the 164th birthday of the State of Kansas, Reps. Ballard and Bergquist led the members of the House in singing Home on the Range.

### **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

There being no objection, the following remarks of Rep. Penn are spread upon the Journal:

Today, the Kansas State Legislature mourns the loss of our esteemed colleague, Representative Marvin S. Robinson II, who leaves behind a legacy of unwavering service and dedication to the People of Kansas.

I am joined down front by members of Representative Robinson's family and church, to include his prelate, Bishop L.F. Thuston, Overseer Reverend David Flournoy, his siblings: Pastor Harold C. Dwight & Mrs. Peggy Dwight, Delisa E. Nunley, and Tyszu (Tasha) D. Coggs, as well as his cousin: Former Kansas State Representative Broderick Henderson, and close family friends, Johndalyn Holley, and Carolyn V. Chambers.

Mr. Speaker, with your permission, I would like to acknowledge a few other distinguished guests in the East Gallery that worked with and help tell the beautiful backstory of Representative Robinson.

Those guests include: representing the United States Congress and Congressman Derek Schmidt (KS-2), Ms. Fran Oleen / Mr. Eric Montgomery; representing Emporia State University, President Ken Hush with their Legislative Director Mr. Greg Schneider; representing Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Mr. Alonzo Harrison of Topeka; representing the surviving students of the historic Brown v. Board decision, Mr. Foster Chisolm and Mrs. Carolyn Campbell, and representing the Kansas Black Legislative Delegation, Ms. Carmen Jackson.

Representative Robinson's journey was one defined by service, learning, and a rock-solid commitment to his community. Born in Kansas City, Kansas, on April 15th, 1957, he remained a lifelong advocate for the place he called home, "The Dot." He graduated from Emporia State University, where he also crossed the burning sands to forge lasting bonds as a "Son of Blood & Thunder" in his beloved Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

In 1978, Marvin enlisted to serve the nation with distinction at the U.S. Navy Training Command Operations as a Specialist, further honing his leadership skills and strengthening his resolve. Upon receiving an Honorable Discharge, he then attended Temple University in Pennsylvania, focusing on Journalism.

Representative Robinson's legacy is deeply intertwined with the preservation of the Quindaro Ruins / Townsite. In May of 1987, he embarked on an absolutely remarkable 37-year journey dedicated to safeguarding this vital piece of Kansas and American history. His relentless determination ensured its rightful placement on the National Registry of Historic Places in 2002. His deep and profound commitment to preserving

his Community's rich heritage while simultaneously carving its path to future economic development earned Representative Robinson the affectionate title of "Mayor of Quindaro," a testament to the deep respect and admiration he garnered from every soul who truly knew him. For this reason, it is wholly appropriate that the Legislature pass HB2029, which will rename a portion of the KS-5 Highway in front of the Quindaro Ruins after Rep. Robinson.

A lifelong public servant, Representative Robinson dedicated himself to the betterment of his KCK Community both through elected office and tireless advocacy. Marvin served on the Board of Economic Opportunity Foundation, resolved to improve the lives of others. In 2022, Robinson overwhelmingly won both his Primary and General elections. This unassuming statesman quietly arrived in Topeka to bring, until his untimely passing, a large voice and huge impact to Kansas and his 35th House District— with deep intelligence, humble grace, true grit, and courage that seemed boundless.

His commitment to legislative action is evident in the significant body of legislation he sponsored, including bills to:

- Declare Juneteenth to be a legal public holiday in Kansas.
- Restore local government control over wages, compensation and benefits for construction projects.
- And resolutions to:
- Commend the United States African-American Burial Grounds Preservation Program.
- Commemorate the 70th anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education.

5 House Bills:

- HB 2341 - Declaring Juneteenth National Independence Day to be a legal public holiday and closing state offices for certain legal public holidays.
- HB 2348 - Restoring local government control over wages, compensation and benefits for construction projects.
- HB 2162 - Providing for sales tax exemption for hygiene products.
- HB 2349 - Abolishing the death penalty and creating the crime of aggravated murder.
- HB 2363 - Releasing any person convicted of a drug offense involving marijuana from such person's sentence and providing for the expungement of any associated records.

8 House Concurrent Resolutions:

- HR 6014 - Commending the United States African-American Burial Grounds Preservation Program.
- HR 6047 - Commemorating the 70th anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education.
- HCR 5009 - Proposing to amend the constitution of the state of Kansas to decrease the assessed value for real property used for residential purposes to 9%.
- HCR 5020 - Proposing a constitutional amendment to amend section 4 of the Kansas bill of rights to recognize the right to bear arms as a fundamental right that includes the possession and use of ammunition, firearm accessories and

- firearm components, and that any restrictions on such right are subject to the strict scrutiny standard.
- HR 6006 - Congratulating and commending the 2023 Kansas Teacher of the Year team.
- HR 6031 - Supporting the strengthening of Kansas' trade partnership with Ireland.
- HR 6035 - Affirming state sovereignty and supporting Texas in its efforts to combat illegal immigration.
- HR 6044 - Commemorating the celebration of St. Patrick's Day.

All these bills and resolutions reflect this Gladiator's unyielding dedication to address the diverse needs of his District and the State. Marvin approached the work with an inquisitiveness, an independence, and a spirit of hopefulness that garnered the legislator both respect and results...when some short-sightedly said he deserves neither.

Marvin Robinson was a patriotic Navy man, committed to Country and Community. A true gentleman in every sense of the word. A gentleman of kind manners and deportment, he was a gentle man who humbly faced extreme friction and vicious opposition with a quiet grace that concealed the strength of his will.

A unifying force, a Servant Leader, and a force multiplier, Marvin was also the embodiment of the poem "IF" by Rudyard Kipling, which I've shared with each of you on your desks.

This day, dear friends, we remember how Rep. Robinson left this world so much better than he found it. He was surrounded by the appreciation of his Community, the respect of his peers, partners, and colleagues, and the love of his wonderful family.

With deepest gratitude, and on behalf of the grateful State of Kansas, we say "Thank You" to Marvin's family, as we present our Official Certificate and State Flag certified as flown in the Capitol. I want to also thank Speaker Dan Hawkins for directing this commemoration and and Majority Leader Chris Croft for securing the flag honors.

Colleagues, friends, and citizens:

**Representative Marvin S. Robinson, II.**

He was a faithful Man of God.

He was a dear family man who was a Son, a Brother, and a Cousin.

He was the most humble of public servants.

He was my friend.

He was a Son of Kansas.

**Honor him.**

## INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

There being no objection, the following remarks of Rep. Silas Miller are spread upon the Journal.

Wichita JROTC and Leadership is celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> Year in Wichita USD 259. They are led by Lieutenant Colonel Shannon Pool, and have outstanding support from USD 259 Superintendent Kelly Bielefeld.

There are 27 instructors from all branches of the military who teach JROTC and Leadership in Wichita Public Schools, and over 2,400 middle and high school students participating every school year. Their extracurricular activities include: marching drill,

physical fitness challenges, robotics, air rifle marksmanship, drone operations, academic bowls, and archery.

Today I would like to recognize the 54 middle school and high school cadets and their leadership from the US Army, US Marine CORPS, and US Air Force.

Thank you cadets for your service, and your commitment to improving your community, your country, and yourselves.

## **INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS**

The following bills were introduced and read by title:

**HB 2139**, AN ACT concerning school districts; relating to contracts for certain goods and services; increasing the minimum expenditure amount for contracted goods and services without requiring sealed bids; increasing the minimum expenditure amount for contracts for goods or services that may be executed by the superintendent on behalf of the school district; amending K.S.A. 72-1131 and 72-1151 and repealing the existing sections, by Committee on Education.

**HB 2140**, AN ACT concerning the attorney general; relating to the drug abuse resistance education (D.A.R.E.) program; creating the position of drug abuse resistance education (D.A.R.E.) educator; providing for the duties and responsibilities thereof, by Committee on Education.

**HB 2141**, AN ACT concerning education; relating to school districts; requiring policies allowing parents to object to educational materials and activities that are not included in approved curriculum or standards or that impair a parent's beliefs, values or principles, by Committee on Education.

**HB 2142**, AN ACT concerning school districts; relating to bullying; requiring adoption of an independent review process as part of the district's policies prohibiting and preventing bullying; amending K.S.A. 72-6147 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Education.

**HB 2143**, AN ACT concerning elections; relating to voter registration; requiring the secretary of state to enter into agreements with credit rating agencies for the release of certain information that can be used to verify the citizenship of persons registered to vote in this state, by Committee on Elections.

**HB 2144**, AN ACT enacting the supported decision-making agreements act; relating to decision-making assistance for adults; amending K.S.A. 21-5417 and repealing the existing section, by Representative Rhiley.

**HB 2145**, AN ACT concerning fairs; relating to certain county fair boards; establishing the membership for the Butler county fair board; providing for the appointment of members thereto; allowing up to five members of such board to be appointed from the county at large; amending K.S.A. 19-2699 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Local Government.

**HB 2146**, AN ACT concerning the state lottery; relating to the lottery operating fund; increasing transfers to the community crisis stabilization centers fund and the clubhouse model program fund of the Kansas department for aging and disability services; amending K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 74-8711 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Federal and State Affairs.

**HB 2147**, AN ACT concerning wildlife; requiring the Kansas department of wildlife and parks to offer discounted resident senior combination hunting and fishing passes to residents of this state who are 65 years of age or older; removing the expiration date for

Kansas kids lifetime combination hunting and fishing licenses; requiring the fee for such pass or license to be an amount not to exceed what is required for such pass or license to qualify as a paid hunting license or paid fishing license under federal law; amending K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 32-9,101 and repealing the existing section; reviving and amending K.S.A. 32-9,100 and repealing the revived section; also repealing K.S.A. 32-9,100, as amended by section 64 of chapter 7 of the 2023 Session Laws of Kansas, by Committee on Federal and State Affairs.

**HB 2148**, AN ACT concerning electric transmission lines; relating to the state corporation commission; prohibiting the permitting of transmission lines located within any territory designated by the United States department of energy as a national interest electric transmission corridor; prohibiting the exercise of eminent domain in any such territory except under limited circumstances; amending K.S.A. 66-1,178 and repealing the existing section, by Representatives Waymaster and Moser.

**HB 2149**, AN ACT concerning distributed energy resources; requiring distributed energy system retailers to disclose certain information to customers who will finance a distributed energy system; requiring electric public utilities to disclose certain information to distributed energy retailers; relating to parallel generation and net metering; providing criteria to determine appropriate system size for a customer's renewable energy system subject to parallel generation; establishing requirements for interconnection and operation of a renewable energy system subject to parallel generation; increasing the total capacity limitation for an electric public utility's provision of parallel generation service; establishing powers and limitations relating thereto; establishing notification requirements for when a system is no longer producing energy or the customer seeks to repair or rebuild a facility; amending K.S.A. 66-1,184 and 66-1268 and repealing the existing sections, by Committee on Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications.

**HB 2150**, AN ACT establishing the advisory commission on Asian-American Pacific Islander affairs; providing for the composition thereof; appointment of members; powers and duties, by Representative Xu.

**HB 2151**, AN ACT concerning labor and employment; increasing the Kansas minimum wage to \$15 an hour; amending K.S.A. 44-1202 and 44-1203 and repealing the existing sections, by Representatives Woodard, Alcalá, Amyx, Carlin, Carmichael, Carr, Featherston, Haskins, Hoye, Martínez, McDonald, Melton, Meyer, Miller, S., Neighbor, Clayton, Schlingensiepen, Simmons, Stogsdill, Weigel, Wikle and Xu.

**HB 2152**, AN ACT concerning public moneys; relating to the deposit and investment thereof; authorizing financial institutions designated as public depositaries to secure governmental unit deposits in excess of the amount insured or guaranteed by the federal deposit insurance corporation by utilizing a public moneys pooled method of securities; directing the state treasurer to establish procedures therefor; requiring financial institutions to make certain reports upon the request of a governmental unit; prohibiting investment advisers that execute bids for the investment of public moneys from engaging in a principal transaction with a governmental unit directly related to such public moneys; allowing municipal bond proceeds and governmental unit deposits to be invested in a financial institution at a rate agreed upon by the governmental unit and the financial institution; equalizing the bank investment rate with the municipal investment pool rate; requiring certification from governmental units that deposits in the municipal investment pool fund were first offered to a bank, savings and loan association or

savings bank in the preceding year; allowing eligible financial institutions to file a complaint with the state treasurer upon the failure of a governmental unit to comply with such certification; establishing the investment rate for the pooled money investment board bank certificate of deposit program; amending K.S.A. 9-1402, 10-131, 12-1675, 12-1675a and 12-1677a and K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 75-4237 and repealing the existing sections, by Committee on Financial Institutions and Pensions.

**HB 2153**, AN ACT concerning water; specifying when irrigation district board of director elections may be conducted by mail ballot; authorizing the board of directors to set the term for such elected members; defining dam for both agriculture and nonagriculture use; clarifying structures that are water obstructions; providing a civil penalty for violations; amending K.S.A. 42-706, 82a-301 and 82a-305a and repealing the existing sections, by Committee on Water.

**HB 2154**, AN ACT concerning taxation; relating to rental and leased motor vehicles; imposing property tax on rental and leased vehicles and discontinuing the excise tax on the rental or lease thereof; amending K.S.A. 8-1,189, 8-2802, 79-5101 and 79-5117 and K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 79-3606 and repealing the existing sections, by Committee on Taxation.

**HB 2155**, AN ACT concerning sheriffs; relating to liability; specifying that sheriffs have liability for official acts related to charge and custody of jails; amending K.S.A. 19-811 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Judiciary.

**HB 2156**, AN ACT concerning income taxation; relating to tax credits for education expenses; providing an education opportunity tax credit for taxpayers with eligible dependent children not enrolled in public school; amending K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 79-32,117 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on K-12 Education Budget.

**HB 2157**, AN ACT concerning pharmacists and pharmacy; relating to the state board of pharmacy; expanding the pharmacist's scope of practice to include point-of-care testing for and treatment of COVID-19; amending K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 65-16,131 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Health and Human Services.

**HB 2158**, AN ACT concerning agriculture; relating to food; permitting beekeepers who meet certain requirements to sell packaged honey and honeycombs without holding a food establishment or food processing plant license under the Kansas food, drug and cosmetic act; amending K.S.A. 65-689 and repealing the existing section, by Representative Schmoe.

## REFERENCE OF BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and concurrent resolution were referred to committees as indicated:

Agriculture and Natural Resources: **HB 2135**.

Child Welfare and Foster Care: **HB 2132**.

Commerce, Labor and Economic Development: **HB 2117, HB 2118, HB 2119, HB 2123**.

Education: **HB 2102, HB 2103, HB 2136, HB 2137, HB 2138**.

Elections: **HB 2106**.

Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications: **HB 2107, HB 2108, HB 2109, HB 2110**.

Federal and State Affairs: **HB 2104, HB 2115, HB 2127**.

Financial Institutions and Pensions: **HB 2129, HB 2130**.

Higher Education Budget: **HB 2120.**

Insurance: **HB 2128.**

Judiciary: **HB 2131, HB 2134, HCR 5008.**

Local Government: **HB 2116.**

Taxation: **HB 2125, HB 2126, HB 2133.**

Transportation: **HB 2105, HB 2121, HB 2122, HB 2124.**

Water: **HB 2111, HB 2112, HB 2113, HB 2114.**

## INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Rep. Estes introduced the members of the 2025 Kansas Teacher of the Year team and presented **HR 6005.**

## INTRODUCTION OF ORIGINAL MOTIONS AND HOUSE RESOLUTIONS

On emergency motion of Rep. Estes, **HR 6005**, as follows, was introduced and adopted:

By Representative Estes

A RESOLUTION congratulating and commending the members of the 2025 Kansas Teacher of the Year team.

WHEREAS, The Kansas State Department of Education sponsors the Kansas Teacher of the Year program, which identifies, recognizes and utilizes representatives of excellent teaching in the elementary and secondary classrooms of the state; and

WHEREAS, The mission of the program is to build and utilize a network of exemplary teachers

who are leaders in the improvement of schools, student performance and the teaching profession; and

WHEREAS, Two teachers, one elementary and one secondary, in each of the state's four United

States congressional districts were selected as finalists for recognition as Kansas Teacher of the Year, with the award recipient being chosen from among the eight finalists; and

WHEREAS, The Kansas Teacher of the Year is awarded with the Hubbard Foundation Kansas Teacher of the Year Ambassadorship, which enables the person selected to devote significant time during the second semester to activities supporting the mission of the program. The 2025 Kansas Teacher of the Year and finalists were honored at an awards banquet on September 28, 2024. All members received a cash award as well as mementos of the event; and

WHEREAS, The Kansas Teacher of the Year is nominated to represent Kansas in the National Teacher of the Year program, a project of the Council of Chief State School Officers, presented by Voya

Financial; and

WHEREAS, The 2025 Kansas Teacher of the Year is Elizabeth Anstine, Leavenworth USD 453; and the regional finalists are: Maegen Stucky, McPherson USD 418; Whitney Aves, Hutchinson USD 308; Benjamin Eckelberry, Shawnee Heights USD 450; Amber Pagan, Shawnee Mission USD 512; Ryan Mellick, Bonner Springs-Edwardsville USD 204; Olivia Winegeart, Derby USD 260; and Erik Stone, Wichita USD 259: Now, therefore,



*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas:* That we congratulate and commend the members of the 2025 Kansas Teacher of the Year team; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives shall send eight enrolled copies of this resolution to Representative Estes.

#### **CHANGE OF REFERENCE**

Speaker pro tempore Carpenter announced the withdrawal of **HB 2114**, **HB 2095**, **HB 2111** from Committee on Water and referral to Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources.

#### **MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR**

From: Laura Kelly, Governor; Executive Directive No. 25-593, Authorizing Personnel Transactions and Establishment of a Federal Fund.

The complete report is kept on file and open for inspection in the office of the Chief Clerk.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS FROM STATE OFFICERS**

From: Randy Watson, EdD, Kansas Commissioner of Education; 2023-2024 Annual Report.

The complete report is kept on file and open for inspection in the office of the Chief Clerk.

#### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

No objection was made to **HB 2004** appearing on the Consent Calendar for the first day.

#### **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

Committee on **Commerce, Labor and Economic Development** recommends **HB 2037** be passed and, because the committee is of the opinion that the bill is of a noncontroversial nature, be placed on the consent calendar.

#### **COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT CHANGES**

Speaker pro tempore Carpenter announced the appointment of Rep. Ballard to replace Rep. Weigel on Committee on Transportation for January 29, 2025.

Also, the appointment of Rep. McDonald to replace Rep. Ohaebosim on Committee on Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications for January 30, 2025.

On motion of Rep. Croft, the House recessed until 5:00 p.m.

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## AFTERNOON SESSION

The House met pursuant to recess with Speaker pro tempore Carpenter in the chair.

**MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE**

Announcing passage of **SB 63**.

**INTRODUCTION OF SENATE BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS**

The following Senate bill was thereupon introduced and read by title:

**SB 63.**

**REFERENCE OF BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS**

Speaker pro tem Carpenter referred **SB 63** to Committee of the Whole.

On motion of Rep. Croft, the House adjourned until 11:00 a.m., Thursday, January 30, 2025.

JENNY HAUGH, JULIA WERNER, *Journal Clerks.*

SUSAN W. KANNARR, *Chief Clerk.*

