

Journal of the House

FIRST DAY

HALL OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
TOPEKA, KS, Monday, January 12, 2026, 2:00 p.m.

OATHS OF OFFICE

The following members were sworn in during the interim since adjournment of the 2025 Regular Session of the Legislature:

I, JENNIFER COOK, Assistant Secretary of State, State of Kansas, hereby certify that Steven Brunk was appointed by the Governor, June 24th, 2025, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Patrick Penn, State Representative for the 85th Legislative District. Representative-elect Brunk came forward, took and subscribed, or affirmed his oath of office, administered by Assistant Secretary of State, State of Kansas, JENNIFER COOK as follows:

STATE OF KANSAS, COUNTY OF SHAWNEE, SS:

I do solemnly swear, or affirm, that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Kansas, and will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of

KANSAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
85th Legislative District
so help me God.

STEVEN BRUNK

Subscribed and Sworn to, or Affirmed, before me this 24th day of June, 2025.

JENNIFER COOK
Assistant Secretary of State
State of Kansas

I, HEIDI L. ANDERSON, Judge of the District Court, State of Kansas, hereby certify that Gregory Wilson was appointed by the Governor, July 30th, 2025, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Scott Hill, State Representative for the 70th Legislative District. Representative-elect Wilson came forward, took and subscribed, or affirmed his oath of office, administered by Judge of the District Court, HEIDI L. ANDERSON, as follows:

STATE OF KANSAS, COUNTY OF DICKINSON, SS:

I do solemnly swear, or affirm, that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Kansas, and will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of

KANSAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
70th Legislative District
so help me God.

GREGORY WILSON

Subscribed and Sworn to, or Affirmed, before me this 30th day of July, 2025.

HEIDI L. ANDERSON
Judge of the District Court
State of Kansas

I, JENNIFER COOK, Assistant Secretary of State, State of Kansas, hereby certify that Carolyn Caiharr was appointed by the Governor, September 5th, 2025, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Michael Thompson, State Representative for the 33rd Legislative District. Representative-elect Caiharr came forward, took and subscribed, or affirmed her oath of office, administered by Assistant Secretary of State, State of Kansas, JENNIFER COOK as follows:

STATE OF KANSAS, COUNTY OF SHAWNEE, SS:

I do solemnly swear, or affirm, that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Kansas, and will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of

KANSAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
33rd Legislative District
so help me God.

CAROLYN CAIHARR

Subscribed and Sworn to, or Affirmed, before me this 5th day of September, 2025.

JENNIFER COOK
Assistant Secretary of State
State of Kansas

I, JENNIFER COOK, Assistant Secretary of State, State of Kansas, hereby certify that Courtney Sappington was appointed by the Governor, October 13th, 2025, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Carrie Barth, State Representative for the 5th Legislative District. Representative-elect Sappington came forward, took and subscribed, or affirmed her oath of office, administered by Assistant Secretary of State, State of Kansas, JENNIFER COOK as follows:

STATE OF KANSAS, COUNTY OF SHAWNEE, SS:

I do solemnly swear, or affirm, that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Kansas, and will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of

KANSAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
5th Legislative District
so help me God.

COURTNEY SAPPINGTON

Subscribed and Sworn to, or Affirmed, before me this 13th day of October, 2025.

JENNIFER COOK
Assistant Secretary of State
State of Kansas

OATH OF OFFICE

The following member was sworn in prior to the Session.

I, ERIC ROSEN, Chief Justice, Kansas Supreme Court, hereby certify that Abi Boatman was appointed by the Governor, January 12th, 2026 to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Silas Miller, State Representative for the 86th Legislative District. Representative-elect Boatman came forward, took and subscribed, or affirmed her oath of office, administered by Chief Justice, Kansas Supreme Court, ERIC ROSEN as follows:

STATE OF KANSAS, COUNTY OF SHAWNEE, SS:

I do solemnly swear, or affirm, that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Kansas, and will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of

KANSAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
86th Legislative District
so help me God.

ABI BOATMAN

Subscribed and Sworn to, or Affirmed, before me this 12th day of January, 2026.

ERIC ROSEN
Chief Justice
Kansas Supreme Court

This being the day fixed by the constitution of the State of Kansas for the assembling of the 2026 session of the legislature, the House was called to order at 2:00 p. m. by Speaker Hawkins.

Speaker Hawkins announced the appointment of Susan Kannarr as Chief Clerk, Allen Morgan as Sgt. At Arms and The Rev. L.D. Holmes as the House Chaplain for 2026.

The roll was called with 123 members present.
Reps. Helgerson and Winn were excused on excused absence by the Speaker.

Prayer by Chaplain Holmes:

Dear Father, We come before You today at the start of this new legislative session, seeking Your wisdom and guidance. I ask that You grant each legislator clarity of mind, a heart of integrity and a spirit of cooperation and collaboration. May their deliberations be guided by a commitment to justice, compassion and the good of all who call Kansas their home.

The writer of the book of Proverbs reminds us, “Do not let kindness and truth leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. So you will find favor and a good reputation, in the sight of God and man. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your path straight.”

I pray You would foster unity where there is division, and grant strength where there is weariness. May each decision made in this and the ensuing sessions honor the trust placed in these leaders and contribute to the peace and prosperity of all those they are called to serve.

These are indeed challenging days. I pray You would walk beside each Representative as they rise to meet the challenges that will be placed before them. Give them courage to make the tough decisions, even when those decisions may be unpopular or unshared by their colleagues.

Now, may the peace of Almighty God bless, protect, and provide clear purpose to each of these Representatives.
I ask this in the mighty name of Jesus Christ. Amen

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rep. Bergquist.

INTRODUCTION OF ORIGINAL MOTIONS AND HOUSE RESOLUTIONS

On emergency motion of Rep. Croft, **HR 6020**, by Reps. Hawkins, Croft and Woodard, as follows, was introduced and adopted:

HR 6020—A RESOLUTION providing for the organization of the House of Representatives for the 2026 session of the Legislature.

Dan Hawkins, speaker,
Blake Carpenter, speaker pro tempore,
Chris Croft, majority leader,
Brandon Woodard, minority leader,
Susan Kannarr, chief clerk,
Allen Morgan, sergeant at arms,
and awaits at the pleasure of the Senate.

INTRODUCTION OF ORIGINAL MOTIONS AND HOUSE RESOLUTIONS

On emergency motion of Rep. Croft, **HR 6021**, by Reps. Hawkins, Croft and Woodard, as follows, was introduced and adopted:

HR 6021—A RESOLUTION providing for the assignment of seats in the House of Representatives for the 2026 legislative session.

A RESOLUTION relating to assignment of seats in the House of Representatives.

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas: That the members of the 2026 regular session of the legislature shall occupy the same seats assigned pursuant to 2025 House Resolution No. 6002, with the following exceptions: Ward seat 20; Brunk seat 42; Wilson seat 44; Turk seat 64; Sweely seat 65; Caiharr seat 67; Sappington seat 100; and Roeser seat 107. Abi Boatman will be assigned to seat 57 after being sworn in as the appointed replacement for district 86, which is being vacated by Representative Silas Miller.

COMMUNICATIONS OF STATE OFFICERS

Dear Mr. Speaker:

This letter is to advise you that the Office of Chief Clerk has received the following communications during the interim since adjournment of the 2025 Regular Session of the Legislature:

From the Office of Governor Laura Kelly:

- Executive Directive No. 25-595, Authorizing Personnel Transactions.
- Executive Directive No. 25-596, Authorizing Establishment of Federal Funds.
- Executive Directive No. 25-597, Authorizing Establishment of Federal Funds.
- Executive Directive No. 25-598, Authorizing Personnel Transactions.
- Executive Directive No. 25-599, Authorizing Establishment of a Federal Fund.
- Executive Directive No. 25-600, Authorizing Personnel Transactions.
- Executive Directive No. 25-601, Authorizing Establishment of a Federal Fund.
- Executive Directive No. 25-602, Authorizing Establishment of a Federal Fund.

From Frank Harwood, Department of Education Deputy Commissioner in accordance to K.S.A. 72-6320, , a report providing the required annual update on the Student Data Privacy Act for FY 2024.

From Lynn M. Retz, Kansas Cooperation Commission Director of Government Relations, in accordance with HB 2527 that was passed in the Kansas Legislature in 2024, a report from FY 2004 reporting plant closures of any nuclear-powered or coal-fired electric generating facilities.

From The Johnson County Educational Research Triangle Authority, in accordance with K.S.A. 19-5005(e), a report providing The Authority's Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report for the year ended June 30, 2025, The Authority's Agreed-Upon Procedures Report: and The Authority's Communication/management letter.

From the office of Kris Kobach, Attorney General of Kansas, The 2025 Consumer Protection and Antitrust Annual Report.

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

COMMUNICATION FROM STATE OFFICERS

From: Joel N. Oliver, Executive Director, Kansas Pooled Money Investment Board; in compliance with K.S.A. 75-4222(h) Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2025.

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

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and concurrent resolutions were introduced and read by title:

HB 2409, AN ACT concerning school districts; relating to the school term; prohibiting the commencement thereof prior to Labor Day; providing for exceptions, by Representative Rhiley.

HB 2410, AN ACT concerning public libraries; relating to withdrawal from a regional system of cooperating libraries; allowing such withdrawal upon certain conditions with no discretion regarding approval of such withdrawal by the state library board; amending K.S.A. 75-2549, 75-2550 and 75-2551 and repealing the existing sections, by Representative Howe.

HB 2411, AN ACT concerning retirement and pensions; relating to the Kansas public employees retirement system; reducing the required waiting period for employment of retirants hired by a school district participating employer for a covered position that requires a teaching license or certificate; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 74-4914 and 74-4937 and repealing the existing sections, by Representative Schwertfeger.

HB 2412, AN ACT concerning crimes, punishment and criminal procedure; increasing the penalties for the crimes of endangering a child and aggravated endangering a child if the child is less than six years of age; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 21-5601 and repealing the existing section, by Representative Collins.

HB 2413, AN ACT concerning crimes, punishment and criminal procedure; relating to theft; providing that theft of livestock or implements of husbandry is a severity level 5, nonperson felony; allowing for the forfeiture of certain property used in the commission of theft of an implement of husbandry; amending K.S.A. 21-5801 and 22-4807a and repealing the existing sections, by Representatives Schwertfeger and Steele.

HB 2414, AN ACT concerning taxation; relating to electric vehicles; establishing the EV energy equity road repair tax act; providing for a road repair tax on the distribution of electricity from public charging stations, by Representative Rhiley.

HB 2415, AN ACT concerning education; relating to school districts; requiring each local board of education of a school district to appoint one or more nonvoting student representatives to such board of education, by Representative McDonald.

HB 2416, AN ACT concerning civil actions; relating to motorsports venues; creating the Kansas motorsports venue protection act; providing immunity to motorsports venues from civil actions for nuisance, taking or other similar legal theories under certain conditions, by Representative Delperdang.

HB 2417, AN ACT concerning financial institutions; relating to the technology-enabled fiduciary financial institutions act; authorizing the state bank commissioner to revoke a fiduciary financial institution charter, subject to approval by the legislative coordinating council; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 9-2301 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Joint Committee on Fiduciary Financial Institutions Oversight.

HB 2418, AN ACT concerning financial institutions; relating to the technology-enabled fiduciary financial institutions act; prohibiting the office of the state bank commissioner or any other state agency from becoming a receiver for a technology-enabled fiduciary financial institution that becomes insolvent or declares bankruptcy; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 9-2301 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Joint Committee on Fiduciary Financial Institutions Oversight.

HB 2419, AN ACT concerning the Kansas open records act; relating to permissible exceptions to disclosure; providing an exception to KORA that authorizes certain retired KPERS members to have identifying information restricted from public websites that identify home addresses or home ownership; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 45-221 and repealing the existing section, by Representative McNorton.

HB 2420, AN ACT concerning education; relating to school districts; requiring parental consent prior to providing any school-based mental health service to a student; establishing exceptions to such requirement; authorizing the imposition of a civil penalty for each violation thereof, by Representative Steele.

HB 2421, AN ACT concerning education; relating to school districts and accredited nonpublic schools; prohibiting students from using personal electronic communication devices during school hours; prohibiting school employees from communicating with students via social media platforms for official school purposes and providing certain exceptions; requiring the adoption of policies and procedures relating thereto; requiring each board of education of a school district and governing authority of an accredited nonpublic elementary or secondary school to report on the average amount of screen time that students in kindergarten and grades one through four experience during a typical school day, by Representatives Brantley, Butler, Chauncey, Goetz, Martinez, Oropeza, Steele, Williams, K. and Xu.

HB 2422, AN ACT concerning crimes, punishment and criminal procedure; relating to theft; providing that theft of grain is a severity level 6, nonperson felony; amending K.S.A. 21-5801 and repealing the existing section, by Representative Schwertfeger.

HB 2423, AN ACT concerning wildlife; relating to hunting; allowing hunters who are federally licensed drone operators to use drones to locate wounded or recently deceased deer; requiring permission from the public or private landowner, or such landowner's authorized representative, prior to launching or landing a drone from or on such landowner's property; prohibiting the use of drones to harass wildlife or the pursuit of any wildlife that has been harassed by or with the aid of a drone; amending K.S.A. 32-1003 and repealing the existing section, by Representative Schwertfeger.

HB 2424, AN ACT concerning water; relating to the department of health and environment; establishing a pump installation contractor license and qualifications for applicants therefor; allowing applicants for water well contractor and pump installation contractor licenses to take examinations online; adding additional qualifications for applicants of water well contractor licenses; requiring additional information to be included in the water well record as required by the secretary; requiring a water well contractor to provide a water quality analysis to the secretary upon request within 60 days of well completion or within an extended timeframe granted by the secretary; requiring the water quality analysis to be conducted by a Kansas certified laboratory; requiring pump installation contractors to keep a record of each pump installed and submit the record to the secretary within 30 days; requiring the pump installation record to include certain data as required by the secretary; requiring the entire amount of any

penalty collected under the act to be deposited in the water program fund instead of the state general fund; amending K.S.A. 82a-1202, 82a-1203, 82a-1205, 82a-1207, 82a-1209, 82a-1210, 82a-1212, 82a-1213, 82a-1214 and 82a-1216 and K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 82a-1206; also repealing K.S.A. 82a-1218, by Representative White.

HB 2425, AN ACT concerning public health; relating to the Kansas food, drug and cosmetic act; determining food containing specific food or color additives to be adulterated; prohibiting the use of adulterated food as an ingredient in any meal provided by schools as part of certain food service programs; providing certain exceptions for foods adulterated by specific food or color additives, including sales of less than \$5,000; determining drugs containing synthetic color additives to be adulterated; providing that the processing, storage or distribution of any drug containing synthetic color additives is subject to a civil penalty in an amount not more than \$500,000 per violation and is a drug severity level 5 felony; amending K.S.A. 65-657, 65-664, 65-668 and 65-682 and repealing the existing sections, by Representative Schwertfeger.

HB 2426, AN ACT amending the women's bill of rights; defining the term "gender" to mean biological sex at birth for purposes of statutory construction; directing the director of the division of motor vehicles to invalidate and reissue driver's licenses when necessary to correct the gender identification on such licenses; directing the office of vital statistics to invalidate and reissue birth certificates when necessary to correct the sex identification on such certificates; removing the definition of "gender" from the help not harm act; amending K.S.A. 8-234a and K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 8-243, 65-28,137 and 77-207 and repealing the existing sections, by Representative Humphries.

HB 2427, AN ACT establishing the position of fiscal integrity auditor to be appointed by the legislative coordinating council; providing for the duties of the fiscal integrity auditor, including access to the state fiscal technology systems and software; requiring certain reports and recommendations to be submitted to certain legislative committees, by Representatives Williams, K. and Waymaster.

HB 2428, AN ACT concerning postsecondary educational institutions; requiring the state board of regents to establish curricula and designate courses at postsecondary educational institutions; relating to DEI-CRT-related courses and content; requiring the study of American institutions and certain programs at freshman orientations concerning free speech, by Representatives Williams, K., Humphries and Lewis.

HB 2429, AN ACT concerning health and healthcare; relating to medications; authorizing the over-the-counter purchase of ivermectin and hydroxychloroquine tablets, by Representative Fairchild.

HB 2430, AN ACT concerning insurance; relating to property and casualty insurance; enacting the insurance savings account act; allowing individuals and corporations to establish insurance savings accounts with certain financial institutions; providing eligible expenses, requirements and restrictions for such accounts; authorizing the secretary of revenue to adopt certain rules and regulations; granting nonexclusive marketing authority to the state commissioner of insurance; establishing addition and subtraction modifications under the Kansas income tax act; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 79-32,117 and 79-32,138 and repealing the existing sections, by Representative Smith, A..

HB 2431, AN ACT concerning education; enacting the student secular bill of rights; establishing statutory protections against religious coercion and discrimination in public

schools; providing a cause of action for students and parents for violations thereof, by Representatives Meyer, Oropeza and Ruiz, S..

HB 2432, AN ACT concerning taxation; relating to excise tax; providing a tax on large employers for certain federal benefits paid to employees, by Representatives Meyer, Oropeza and Ruiz, S..

HB 2433, AN ACT concerning the regulation of water use; clarifying county authority over the transfer or appropriation of water; placing such authority with the chief engineer and water transfer hearing panel; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 19-101a and repealing the existing section, by Representative Wasinger.

HB 2434, AN ACT making and concerning appropriations for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2026, June 30, 2027, and June 30, 2028, for state agencies; authorizing certain transfers, capital improvement projects, assessments and fees; authorizing certain transfers; imposing certain restrictions and limitations; directing or authorizing certain disbursements, procedures and acts incidental to the foregoing; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 2-223, 12-1775a, 12-5256, 74-50,107, 74-99b34, 76-775, 76-7,107, 79-2989, 79-3425i, 79-34,171 and 82a-955 and repealing the existing sections, by Representative Waymaster.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

On emergency motion of Rep. Croft, **HCR 5019**, by Representatives Hawkins, Croft and Woodward, was introduced and adopted.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. **HCR 5019**—

By Representatives Hawkins, Croft and Woodard

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION informing the Governor that the two houses of the Legislature are duly organized and ready to receive communications.

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas, the Senate concurring therein: That the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate be appointed to wait upon the Governor and inform the Governor that the two houses of the Legislature are duly organized and are ready to receive any communications that the Governor may have to present.

On emergency motion of Rep. Croft, **HCR 5020**, by Representatives Hawkins, Croft and Woodward, was introduced and adopted.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. **HCR 5020**—

By Representatives Hawkins, Croft and Woodard

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION providing for joint sessions of the Senate and the House of Representatives for the purpose of hearing messages from the Governor and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas, the Senate concurring therein: That the Senate and the House of Representatives shall meet in joint session in Representative Hall at 6:00 p.m. on January 13, 2026, for the purpose of hearing a message from the Governor.

Be it further resolved: That the Senate and the House of Representatives shall meet in joint session in Representative Hall at 1:15 p.m. on January 13, 2026, for the purpose of hearing a message from the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court on the judicial branch of government.

Be it further resolved: That a committee of two members from the Senate and three members from the House of Representatives be appointed to wait upon the Governor.

Be it further resolved: That a committee of two members from the Senate and three members from the House of Representatives be appointed to wait upon the Lieutenant Governor.

Be it further resolved: That a committee of two members from the Senate and three members from the House of Representatives be appointed to wait upon the Supreme Court Justices.

In accordance with **HCR 5020**: Speaker Hawkins appointed the following escorts:

For the State of the Judiciary

To escort the Supreme Court: Representatives Humphries, Lewis and Brownlee Paige

To escort the Senate: Representatives Bryce, L. Williams and Melton

For State of the State

To escort the Governor: Representatives Buehler, Stiens and Ohaebosim

To escort the Lt. Governor: Representatives Esau, Sweely and Wikle

To escort the Supreme Court: Representatives Caiharr, McNorton, and Carmichael

To escort the Senate: Representatives Goetz, Kessler and Sawyer

REFERENCE OF BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills were referred to committees as indicated:

Appropriations: **HB 2427**.

Education: **HB 2409, HB 2415, HB 2420, HB 2421, HB 2428, HB 2431**.

Federal and State Affairs: **HB 2423**.

Financial Institutions and Pensions: **HB 2411, HB 2417, HB 2418**.

Health and Human Services: **HB 2425, HB 2429**.

Judiciary: **HB 2412, HB 2413, HB 2419, HB 2422, HB 2426**.

Local Government: **HB 2410**.

Taxation: **HB 2430, HB 2432**.

Transportation: **HB 2414, HB 2416**.

Water: **HB 2424, HB 2433**.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORTS

On motion of Rep. Humphries, to adopt the conference committee report on **HB 2347**, Rep. Lewis offered a substitute motion to not adopt the conference committee report and that a new conference committee be appointed.

The substitute motion of Rep. Lewis prevailed and Speaker Hawkins appointed Reps. Humphries, L. Williams and Osman as second conferees.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Speaker Hawkins introduced Dr. Beth Oller, President of the Kansas Academy of Family Physicians.

Dr. Oller resides in Lawrence but her patients live in the rural community of Rooks County, Kansas. She does telehealth three weeks of the month and has traveled back one week a month to serve her rural based patients for the past fifteen years.

The Academy has sponsored the doctor of the day program since 1978. The program provides daily assistance to those serving the Statehouse during the session, offering services such as blood pressure and temperature checks, basic first aid supplies, over-the-counter medications, and evaluation of minor ailments.

KAFP works to staff as many days as possible each legislative session, made possible by physician members who travel from across the state to donate their time in service of public health.

We appreciate this program and your efforts. Thank you again for providing this service.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT CHANGE

Speaker Hawkins announced the appointment of Rep. Neighbor to replace Rep. McDonald on Committee on Health and Human Services for January 15, 2026.

On motion of Rep. Croft, the House adjourned until 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 13, 2026.

JENNY HAUGH, JULIA WERNER, *Journal Clerks.*

SUSAN W. KANNARR, *Chief Clerk.*

