

Journal of the House

FOURTH DAY

HALL OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
TOPEKA, KS, Thursday, January 15, 2026, 11:00 a.m.

The House met pursuant to adjournment with Speaker Hawkins in the chair.

The roll was called with 120 members present.

Reps. Alcalá, Howe and Winn were excused on verified illness.

Reps. Awerkamp and Borjon were excused on excused absence by the Speaker.

Prayer by Chaplain Holmes:

Dear Father, You are a good and gracious Father, and we give You thanks for your grace, understanding and patience. We understand we have not yet arrived at that place where we have learned everything there is to be learned about others or ourselves. Give us the wisdom to make decisions which will withstand the scrutiny of time.

In the book of Proverbs Your word tells us “He who restrains his words has knowledge, and those who have a cool spirit are people of understanding. Even a fool when he keeps silent is considered wise; When he closes his lips, he is counted prudent.”

Might the words we speak be filtered through wisdom and understanding. Keep us from using words which do not add value to a given conversation. Help us to always evaluate our articulated values through the prism of reasoned thought, flavored with insight and godliness. Where we have differences of opinion, allow our responses to always reflect good character and a gentle spirit.

Everyone gathered here has an opinion about about every situation which comes before them. Your Word reminds us “He who gives an answer before he hears, it is folly and shame to him.” Give us ears, I pray, which truly listen to opposing thoughts and ideas, knowing that at times opinions are changed when well formulated thoughts are presented.

Now may Your spirit of peace be manifested in this chamber today.

We ask this in the Name of the One who Was and Is and Is to come, Amen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rep. Barrett.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills were introduced and read by title:

HB 2447, AN ACT concerning elections; providing for a presidential preference primary election in 2028 and every four years thereafter; aligning the special election date in March with the presidential preference primary election date; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 25-432, 25-1115, 25-2006, 25-2311, 25-2502, 25-4501a, 25-4505 and 25-4506 and repealing the existing sections, by Committee on Elections.

HB 2448, AN ACT concerning driver's licenses; requiring citizenship status be listed on the license; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 8-243 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Elections.

HB 2449, AN ACT concerning elections; relating to voter registration; authorizing the removal of a voter from voter registration rolls if such voter is issued a driver's license by another state; requiring an attestation on voter registration forms that states that obtaining a foreign driver's license constitutes a change of residency for voting purposes; amending K.S.A. 25-2309 and K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 25-2324 and repealing the existing sections, by Committee on Elections.

HB 2450, AN ACT concerning elections; relating to campaign finance; providing exceptions to the automatic termination of candidate campaign accounts if the account holds at least a minimum amount of money or has at least a minimum amount of debt liability; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 25-4190 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Elections.

HB 2451, AN ACT concerning elections; relating to the use of public assets for campaign finance; prohibiting the use of such assets to advocate for or against state constitutional amendments and any other ballot question submitted to qualified electors; amending K.S.A. 25-4169a and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Elections.

HB 2452, AN ACT concerning elections; changing the timing of municipality elections for cities, school districts, community colleges and certain other municipalities to fall in even-numbered years; requiring terms of office to be either two years or four years; amending K.S.A. 2-623, 2-624, 13-1221, 13-1702, 19-2760, 19-3505, 24-412, 24-459, 24-504, 24-506, 25-205, 25-210, 25-610, 25-611, 25-2010, 25-2017a, 25-2102, 25-2107, 25-2108a, 25-21a03, 42-706, 71-1408, 71-1413, 71-1422 and 80-2508 and K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 25-213, 25-303, 25-1115, 25-2006, 25-2018, 25-2311, 25-2502 and 25-3009 and repealing the existing sections; also repealing K.S.A. 25-21a01, by Committee on Elections.

HB 2453, AN ACT concerning elections; relating to advance voting ballots; requiring applications for such ballots be filed by the 12th day prior to election day; requiring advance voting in person to be completed prior to the week of the election; extending the time for transmittal of such ballots to 22 days prior to an election; ending the time for voter registration at 25 days prior to election day; amending K.S.A. 25-1123, 25-1133, 25-1134 and 25-1136 and K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 25-1122, 25-1132, 25-2311 and 25-3107 and repealing the existing sections, by Committee on Elections.

HB 2454, AN ACT concerning the residential landlord and tenant act; requiring landlords to accept full or partial payment amounts and to consider certain income of a tenant or prospective tenant when demonstrating income as a condition of qualifying for housing; providing that violations of such requirements shall be deemed to be a

deceptive or unconscionable act or practice under the provisions of the Kansas consumer protection act and subject to the remedies and enforcement provisions of such act, by Representatives Howerton, Howell and Tarwater.

HB 2455, AN ACT making and concerning appropriations for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2026, June 30, 2027, June 30, 2028, and June 30, 2029, for state agencies; authorizing certain transfers, capital improvement projects and fees, imposing certain restrictions and limitations, and directing or authorizing certain receipts, disbursements, procedures and acts incidental to the foregoing; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 2-223, 12-1775a, 12-5256, 74-50,107, 74-8711, 74-99b34, 76-775, 76-7,107, 79-3425i, 79-4801, 79-4804 and 82a-955 and repealing the existing sections, by Committee on Appropriations.

HB 2456, AN ACT concerning sales taxation; relating to countywide and city retailers' sales taxes; authorizing cities and counties to levy a 0% sales and use tax on sales of food ingredients; amending K.S.A. 12-189a and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Taxation.

HB 2457, AN ACT concerning property taxation; relating to residential property; restricting homestead taxes to not more than the established base year amount of property taxes owed for individuals 65 years of age and older; relating to commercial property; eliminating the property tax exemption for certain properties used for healthcare when in competition with comparable uses by non-exempt properties; amending K.S.A. 79-201 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Taxation.

HB 2458, AN ACT concerning local government; relating to certain taxing jurisdictions; requiring approval of property tax levies and bond issuances by elected bodies or electors; amending K.S.A. 3-114, 12-1220, 12-1234, 12-1267, 12-1270, 12-1276, 12-1288, 12-1688, 12-1927, 12-1928, 12-1936, 13-13a18, 13-13a23, 19-3557, 19-3617, 19-3622, 27-322, 27-323, 27-333, 75-2551, 80-1520 and 80-1548 and repealing the existing sections, by Committee on Taxation.

HB 2459, AN ACT concerning traffic regulations; relating to electric-assisted scooters and electric-assisted bicycles; requiring any person who is 17 years of age and under to wear a helmet while operating an electric-assisted scooter or electric-assisted bicycle; modifying the definition of electric-assisted scooter to include certain specifications and maximum operating speeds; prohibiting any person who is 13 years of age and under from operating an electric-assisted scooter; establishing a maximum speed limit of 15 miles per hour when operating an electric-assisted scooter; amending K.S.A. 8-126, 8-1498 and 8-15,113 and repealing the existing sections, by Committee on Transportation.

REFERENCE OF BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

The following bill appearing on the Calendar as "to be referred," was referred to committee as indicated:

Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications: **HB 2435**

REFERENCE OF BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills were referred to committees as indicated:

Elections: **HB 2437, HB 2438, HB 2446.**

Federal and State Affairs: **HB 2439, HB 2442.**

Health and Human Services: **HB 2436.**

Judiciary: **HB 2444.**

Taxation: **HB 2440, HB 2441, HB 2443, HB 2445.**

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STATE OFFICERS

From Dawn Buehler, Chair, Kansas Water Authority; Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2025. From Randy Watson, EdD, Kansas Commissioner of Education, Kansas State Department of Education; 2024-2025 Annual Report.

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

FINAL ACTION ON BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

HB 2204, AN ACT concerning certain international organizations; declaring such organizations have no power to enforce any policy or regulation within the state of Kansas or the political subdivisions thereof, was considered on final action.

On roll call, the vote was: Yeas 85; Nays 35; Present but not voting: 0; Absent or not voting: 5.

Yeas: Anderson, Barrett, Bergkamp, Bergquist, Blex, Bloom, Bohi, Brantley, Brunk, Bryce, Buehler, Butler, Caiharr, B. Carpenter, W. Carpenter, Chauncey, Collins, Corbet, Croft, Delperdang, Droge, Ellis, Esau, Essex, Estes, Fairchild, Francis, Gardner, Goddard, Goetz, Hawkins, Helwig, Hoffman, Hoheisel, Howell, Howerton, Huebert, Humphries, James, T. Johnson, Kessler, King, Lewis, Long, McNorton, Minnix, Moser, Neelly, Pickert, Pishny, Poetter, Proctor, Rahjes, Reavis, Resman, Rhiley, Roeser, Roth, Sanders, Sappington, Schmoie, Schreiber, Schwertfeger, Seiwert, Smith, A., Smith, C., Steele, Stiens, Sutton, Sweely, Tarwater, Turk, Turner, VanHouden, Waggoner, Ward, Wasinger, Waymaster, White, Wilborn, Willcott, Williams, K., Williams, L., Wilson, Wolf.

Nays: Amyx, Ballard, Boatman, Paige, Carlin, Carmichael, Carr, Curtis, Featherston, Haskins, Helgerson, Hoye, Martinez, McDonald, Melton, Meyer, Mosley, Neighbor, Ohaebosim, Oropeza, Osman, Ousley, Poskin, Ruiz, L., Ruiz, S., Sawyer, Clayton, Schlingensiepen, Simmons, Stogsdill, Vaughn, Weigel, Wikle, Woodard, Xu.

Present but not voting: None.

Absent or not voting: Alcalá, Awerkamp, Borjon, Howe, Winn.

The bill passed, as amended.

EXPLANATIONS OF VOTE

MR. SPEAKER: In a time when Kansans are dealing with hard financial realities, worrying about putting food on the table, affording medical care and prescriptions, and rising inflation, I am extremely disheartened that the serious work expected of this body has been de-prioritized in favor of do-nothing legislation, such as this bill, which is nothing more than political theater aimed at appeasing conspiracy theorists. The United Nations & the World Health Association already hold no authority over our state. This bill is clearly a gross waste of state resources. I vote NO on **HB 2204**. NIKKI McDONALD, SUSAN RUIZ, MELISSA OROPEZA, LYNN MELTON, ANGELA MARTINEZ, TOBIAS SCHLINGENSIEPEN, SYDNEY CARLIN, KIRK HASKINS, ABI BOATMAN, WANDA BROWNLEE PAIGE, LOUIS RUIZ, SUZANNE WIKLE, FORD CARR, RUI XU, HEATHER MEYER, LINDA FEATHERSTON

MR. SPEAKER: I vote NO on **HB 2204**. We might need the United Nations to defend our rights in the face of violations on arbitrary detention, racial profiling, and treatment of migrants by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. As ICE continues a campaign of organized brutality on American citizens, we may not want to distance Kansas from international voices that could speak out to protect our safety and well-being. What if we need help from the United Nations to reclaim our communities from President Donald Trump? I vote NO. JO ELLA HOYE, CINDY NEIGHBOR

HB 2332, AN ACT concerning the legislature; establishing a seal for the house of representatives; providing for the custody and use thereof; amending K.S.A. 75-201 and repealing the existing section, was considered on final action.

On roll call, the vote was: Yeas 120; Nays 0; Present but not voting: 0; Absent or not voting: 5.

Yeas: Amyx, Anderson, Ballard, Barrett, Bergkamp, Bergquist, Blex, Bloom, Boatman, Bohi, Brantley, Paige, Brunk, Bryce, Buehler, Butler, Caiharr, Carlin, Carmichael, B. Carpenter, W. Carpenter, Carr, Chauncey, Collins, Corbet, Croft, Curtis, Delperdang, Droge, Ellis, Esau, Essex, Estes, Fairchild, Featherston, Francis, Gardner, Goddard, Goetz, Haskins, Hawkins, Helgerson, Helwig, Hoffman, Hoheisel, Howell, Howerton, Hoye, Huebert, Humphries, James, T. Johnson, Kessler, King, Lewis, Long, Martinez, McDonald, McNorton, Melton, Meyer, Minnix, Moser, Mosley, Neely, Neighbor, Ohaebosim, Oropeza, Osman, Ousley, Pickert, Pishny, Poetter, Poskin, Proctor, Rahjes, Reavis, Resman, Rhiley, Roeser, Roth, Ruiz, L., Ruiz, S., Sanders, Sappington, Sawyer, Clayton, Schlingensiepen, Schmoie, Schreiber, Schwertfeger, Seiwert, Simmons, Smith, A., Smith, C., Steele, Stiens, Stogsdill, Sutton, Sweely, Tarwater, Turk, Turner, VanHouden, Vaughn, Waggoner, Ward, Wasinger, Waymaster, Weigel, White, Wikle, Wilborn, Willcott, Williams, K., Williams, L., Wilson, Wolf, Woodard, Xu.

Nays: None.

Present but not voting: None.

Absent or not voting: Alcalá, Awerkamp, Borjon, Howe, Winn.

The bill passed, as amended.

EXPLANATION OF VOTE

MR. SPEAKER: Because the Seal of the Kansas House of Representatives is in substance identical with the Great Seal of the State of Kansas, I wish only to note the following in proud support of this bill:

The Great Seal of the State of Kansas was adopted by a joint resolution of the first state legislature on May 25, 1861, in the sanctuary of my church, First Congregational Church in Topeka, which served as a temporary capitol building. - TOBIAS SCHLINGENSIEPEN

Upon unanimous consent, the House referred back to the regular business, Introduction of Bills and Concurrent Resolutions.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills were introduced and read by title:

HB 2460, AN ACT concerning the Kansas open records act (KORA); relating to

permissible exceptions to disclosure; providing an exception to KORA that authorizes members of the legislature to have identifying information restricted from public access on public websites that identify home addresses or home ownership; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 45-221 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Judiciary.

HB 2461, AN ACT concerning insurance; relating to public adjusters; prohibiting public adjusters from negotiating for or effectuating the settlement of any insurance claim relating to residential and personal lines of insurance; amending K.S.A. 40-5501 and 40-5503 and K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 40-5502 and repealing the existing sections, by Committee on Insurance.

HB 2462, AN ACT concerning water; requiring the secretary of health and environment to adopt rules and regulations by July 1, 2028, allowing for the direct and indirect potable reuse of treated wastewater; amending K.S.A. 65-162a and 65-171m and repealing the existing sections, by Committee on Water.

HB 2463, AN ACT concerning rural health; creating the rural health transformation fund; prescribing powers and duties of the state finance council concerning such fund and the rural health transformation program; crediting all federal moneys for the rural health transformation program to such fund; making and concerning appropriations for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2026, and June 30, 2027, for the state finance council and other state agencies; authorizing certain transfers, imposing certain restrictions and limitations and directing or authorizing certain receipts, disbursements, procedures and acts incidental to the foregoing, by Representative Waymaster.

HB 2464, AN ACT concerning income taxation; relating to credits; extending the number of years that new credits may be issued or earned for contributions to graduates of aerospace and aviation-related educational programs and employers of program graduates; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 79-32,295 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development.

HB 2465, AN ACT concerning discrimination; enacting the professionals' freedom of expression act; providing protection for professionals and businesses against adverse action as a result of an expression of beliefs by such professional or business that is unrelated to such profession or business; including such protections within the real estate brokers' and salespersons' license act; amending K.S.A. 58-3034 and 58-3062 and repealing the existing sections, by Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development.

HB 2466, AN ACT concerning economic development; relating to income tax credit incentives; extending the sunset for the angel investor tax credit to 2031; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 74-8133 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development.

HB 2467, AN ACT concerning traffic regulations; relating to failure to comply with a traffic citation; prohibiting past convictions or sanctions that are more than five years old from being considered by courts or the division of vehicles; eliminating certain notice requirements for the division of vehicles related to suspended or restricted drivers' licenses; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 8-2110 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Transportation.

CHANGE OF REFERENCE

Speaker Hawkins announced the withdrawal of **HB 2442** from Committee on Federal and State Affairs and referral to Committee on Taxation.

INTRODUCTION OF ORIGINAL MOTION

On motion of Rep. Croft to withdraw **HB 2011** from Calendar, under that order of business, General Orders, pursuant to House Rule 2306, the motion prevailed and the Bill was referred to Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT CHANGE

Speaker Hawkins announced the appointment of Rep. Hoffman to replace Rep. Borjon on Committee on Judiciary on, January 15, 2026.

Also, the appointment of Rep. Neighbor to replace Rep. Alcalá on Committee on Taxation on, January 15, 2026.

REPORT ON ENGROSSED BILLS

HB 2204, HB 2332 reported correctly engrossed January 14, 2026.

REPORT ON ENROLLED RESOLUTIONS

HR 6020, HR 6021 reported correctly enrolled and properly signed on January 15, 2026.

On motion of Rep. Croft the House adjourned pro forma until 11:00 a.m. on Friday, January 16, 2026.

JENNY HAUGH, JULIA WERNER, *Journal Clerks.*

SUSAN W. KANNARR, *Chief Clerk.*

