

Journal of the House

TWENTIETH DAY

HALL OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
TOPEKA, KS, Monday, February 9, 2026, 11:00 a.m.

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

The roll was called with 122 members present.

Reps. Delperdang and Sawyer were excused on verified illness.

Rep. Winn was excused on excused absence by the Speaker.

Prayer by guest chaplain, Pastor Dakota Smith, Ottawa Bible Church, and guest of Representative Schmoe.

Father, thank You for this opportunity to be among those who serve our state. I pray that despite the work accomplished, you'd give them a discernment with regard to that which has limited value, versus that which deserves our ultimate attention.

Lord, this morning I specifically pray for the members of this House, that they would remember to serve and love their families as their first priority. Despite their efforts, help them not to sacrifice an unhealthy amount of time and relational investment away from their loved ones.

Teach us to number our days. Teach us to have reflective hearts. Teach us to not too quickly fill in all the extra cushion we have in life for the tyranny of the urgent.

Finally, Father I thank you that You are good and holy and transcendent. I thank You that You alone give humans objective value, and that You alone are sovereign over the affairs of the United States of America. We also thank You for our military and veterans.

We love You and appreciate You and thank You that You loved this world so much that You gave Your only Son, Jesus Christ, as a substitute for our sin.

With that we love and cherish You and we ask that You would provide wisdom and humility for today's session.

In the name of Jesus Christ I pray, Amen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rep. McDonald.

REFERENCE OF BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills were referred to committees as indicated:

Child Welfare and Foster Care: **HB 2742**.

Commerce, Labor and Economic Development: **HB 2739, HB 2757, HB 2764**.

Education: **HB 2743, HB 2744**.

Elections: **HB 2766**.

Federal and State Affairs: **HB 2752, HB 2759, SB 299**.

Health and Human Services: **HB 2740, HB 2741, HB 2753, HB 2760, HB 2763, HB 2765**.

Judiciary: **HB 2746, HB 2747, HB 2748, HB 2749, HB 2750, HB 2751, HB 2754, HB 2755, HB 2756, HB 2762**.

K-12 Education Budget: **HB 2761**.

Taxation: **HB 2745**.

Veterans and Military: **HB 2758**.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

HB 2183, HB 2347 approved on February 5, 2026.

MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

Announcing passage of **SB 327, SB 348**.

INTRODUCTION OF SENATE BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

The following Senate bills were thereupon introduced and read by title:

SB 327, SB 348.

On motion of Rep. Croft, the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole, with Rep. Waymaster in the chair.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

On motion of Rep. Waymaster, Committee of the Whole report, as follows, was adopted:

Recommended that **HB 2433, HB 2542** be passed.

Committee report to **HB 2467** be adopted; and the bill be passed as amended.

Committee report to **HB 2438** be adopted;

Also, on motion of Rep. Haskins, **HB 2438** be amended As Further Amended by House Committee, on page 1, in line 33, after "endpoints" by inserting ", which shall be provided by the secretary of state" and the bill be passed as amended.

On motion of Rep. Poskin to amend **SCR 1615**, the motion did not prevail.

Also, roll call was demanded on further motion of Rep. Poskin to amend **SCR 1615**, on page 1, in line 14, after "debate" by inserting "; and

WHEREAS, Section 11 of the Bill of Rights of the Constitution of the State of

Kansas sets forth the responsibility of the people to not abuse the freedom of speech in a defamatory, untruthful or grossly negligent manner; and WHEREAS, The scope and ease of digital dissemination of defamatory information increases the potential for harmful impact of such information"

On roll call, the vote was: Yeas 35; Nays 83; Present but not voting: 0; Absent or not voting: 7.

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

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

Present but not voting: None.

Absent or not voting: Bohi, Delperdang, Minnix, Roeser, Sawyer, White, Winn.

The motion of Rep. Poskin did not prevail.

Also, on motion of Rep. Carr to amend **SCR 1615**, on page 1, in line 14, after "debate" by inserting "; and

WHEREAS, Malcolm X formed the Muslim Mosque, Inc., and the Organization of Afro-American Unity (OAAU); and

WHEREAS, Malcolm X was assassinated on February 21, 1965, while preparing to give a speech at the Audubon Ballroom in New York City for the OAAU; and

WHEREAS, Malcolm X debated and spoke at colleges and universities between 1960 and 1965, including speeches at Oxford, Harvard, Yale, Morgan State, Columbia, Dartmouth, University at Buffalo, Michigan State University and Howard University";

Also on page 1, in line 18, by striking legacy and inserting "and Malcolm X's legacies"; in line 20, after "Kirk" by inserting "and Malcolm X, born Malcolm Little,,"; in line 25, after "Kirk" by inserting "and Malcolm X, born Malcolm Little,,"; in line 26, by striking "life" and inserting "lives"; also in line 26, after "Kirk" by inserting "and Malcolm X, born Malcolm Little,,"; in line 30 after "Kirk" by inserting "and "Malcolm X, born Malcolm Little,,"; in line 31, after "Kirk" by inserting "and Malcolm X, born Malcolm Little,,"; in line 33, after "Shallenburger" by inserting ", Representative Carr"; Also on page 1, in the title, in line 3, after "Kirk" by inserting "and Malcolm X, born Malcolm Little,"

Also, Rep. Steele requested a ruling on the amendment being germane to the resolution. The Rules Chair ruled the amendment was germane.

Also, roll call was demanded on the motion of Rep. Carr to amend **SCR 1615**.

On roll call, the vote was: Yeas 33; Nays 82; Present but not voting: 0; Absent or not voting: 10.

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

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

Present but not voting: None.

Absent or not voting: Delperdang, Howerton, Minnix, Rahjes, Resman, Roeser, Sawyer, Schwertfeger, White, Winn.

The motion of Rep. Carr to amend **SCR 1615** did not prevail and;
SCR 1615 be adopted.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Committee on **Appropriations** recommends **HB 2555** be amended on page 1, in line 13, after the period by inserting "Such application information presented to the state finance council shall include the:

- (1) Partner, stakeholder or subawardee receiving the grant;
- (2) purpose of the grant including planned expenditures;
- (3) physical location and, if applicable, the local impacted community where the intended expenditures shall be made; and
- (4) outcomes to be achieved by each grant.";

Also on page 1, in line 23, after the period by inserting "Each grant recipient shall provide to the state finance council quarterly reports of the metrics used to measure success of the intended outcomes and key performance indicators achieved through the awarded grant."; and the bill be passed as amended.

Committee on **Elections** recommends **HB 2447** be amended on page 5, in line 38, by striking "10th" and inserting "15th"; and the bill be passed as amended.

Committee on **Elections** recommends **HB 2448** be amended on page 1, following line 5, by inserting:

"New Section 1. Any person who displays a driver's license listing such person as a noncitizen at a polling place shall be given a provisional ballot for voting purposes if such person claims to be a citizen.";

And by renumbering sections accordingly;

Also on page 1, in the title, in line 2, after the semicolon by inserting "requiring persons who show a driver's license listing them as noncitizens at a polling place shall be given a provisional ballot if such persons claim to be a citizen."; and the bill be passed as amended.

Committee on **Elections** recommends **HB 2451** be amended on page 1, following line 7, by inserting:

"New Section 1. (a) As used in this section, "public funds" means any state, county, city, school district or other political subdivision funds, including funds derived from taxes, fees or assessments.

(b) Any publication, communication, mailing, advertisement, website, social media posting or other informational material concerning a proposed bond issue that is paid for, in whole or in part, with public funds shall include a fiscal disclosure statement or a link to a state or municipality website or a quick response code (QR) that provides neutral, factual information regarding the financial impact of the proposed bond issue.

(c) The fiscal disclosure statement shall include, at a minimum, the following information:

(1) The principal amount of the proposed bond issue;

(2) the estimated total cost of the bond issue, including interest, calculated using the expected interest rate at the time that the bond is proposed and clearly identified as an estimate;

(3) the duration of the bond, including the number of years over which the bond is to be repaid;

(4) a statement identifying any outstanding bonds or bond-related obligations of the issuing entity, including:

(A) The remaining principal balance; and

(B) the estimated remaining total payments, including interest;

(5) the estimated annual debt service payment required to repay the proposed bond issue;

(6) the estimated total amount of property tax revenue, in actual dollars, required annually to make the bond payments;

(7) an estimate of the annual and total property tax impact expressed in real dollar amounts, including the estimated annual cost per \$100,000 of appraised residential property value; and

(8) a clear statement that the estimates provided are projections and actual costs may vary based on interest rates, assessed valuation changes and other economic factors.

(d) A publication funded with public funds shall not state or imply that a proposed bond issue will not raise taxes or increase property taxes based solely on mill levy calculations, unless the publication also includes:

(1) The estimated actual property tax dollars required annually to make bond payments;

(2) the estimated real dollar cost to property owners; and

(3) a disclaimer that explains that a mill levy that remains the same equates to a tax increase due to appraised valuations increasing annually.

(e) All fiscal disclosure statements required by this section shall be presented in plain language, in a manner that is clearly visible and understandable to the average reader and shall not be minimized, obscured or contradicted by other content in the publication.

(f) Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit the use of public funds to advocate for a bond issue. The information required under this section shall be strictly informational and neutral.

(g) Any publication concerning a bond issue that is inconsistent with the provisions of this section shall constitute a violation of this act.;

Also on page 1, in line 35, after "office" by inserting "or ballot issue"; also in line 35, after the second "candidate" by inserting "or ballot issue committee";

On page 2, in line 3, by striking all after "(f)"; by striking all in lines 4 through 8; in line 9, by striking "(2)"; in line 11, after the third comma by inserting "radio advertisements, television advertisements, "; in line 13, after "(g)" by inserting "Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to limit the freedom of speech of any officer or employee of the state of Kansas or any municipality who is speaking in the officer's or employee's personal capacity. This section does not prohibit the state, state agencies or the governing body of any municipality from presenting factual information solely for the purpose of educating voters on a ballot question.

(h)";

Also on page 2, in line 16, after "section" by inserting "including failure to provide the disclosure regarding a bond issue";

And by redesignating subsections, paragraphs, subparagraphs and clauses accordingly;

And by renumbering sections accordingly;

On page 1, in the title, in line 4, after the semicolon by inserting "requiring detailed fiscal information to be part of any informational statement concerning a proposed bond issue. "; and the bill be passed as amended.

Committee on **Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications** recommends **HB 2180** be amended on page 3, in line 25, after "after" by inserting "July 1, 2027, and"; and the bill be passed as amended.

Committee on **Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications** recommends **HB 2544** be passed.

Committee on **Judiciary** recommends **HB 2460** be amended on page 7, in line 27, after "(51)" by inserting "(A)"; in line 29, after the colon by inserting:

"(i)";

On page 8, in line 2, after "or" by inserting "any person who was employed in such a position provided in this subparagraph for five or more years; or

(ii)";

Also on page 8, in line 3, after "legislature" by inserting "; a state officer elected on a statewide basis; a member of the state board of education; or an elected member of the governing body of any municipality as defined in K.S.A. 75-6102, and amendments thereto"; also in line 3, after the period by inserting:

"(B)";

Also on page 8, in line 27, by striking all after "(54)"; by striking all in lines 28

through 32; in line 33, by striking "(55)";

And by redesignating subsections, paragraphs, subparagraphs and clauses accordingly;

On page 1, in the title, in line 2, by striking "providing" and inserting "modifying"; in line 3, by striking "members of the legislature" and inserting "certain individuals"; in line 5, after the semicolon by inserting "providing that certain individuals who were employed for five or more years may request to have such information restricted; authorizing members of the legislature, state officers elected on a statewide basis, members of the state board of education and elected members of the governing body of any municipality to request to have such information restricted; removing an exception to KORA related to information or reports obtained and prepared by the office of the state bank commissioner;"; and the bill be passed as amended.

Committee on **Judiciary** recommends **HB 2479** be amended on page 2, in line 21, by striking "an opportunity" and inserting "48 hours"; in line 37, by striking all after "(h)"; by striking all in lines 38 through 42; in line 43, by striking "(i)";

And by redesignating subsections, paragraphs, subparagraphs and clauses accordingly;

And the bill be passed as amended.

Committee on **Taxation** recommends **HB 2440**, **HB 2470** be passed.

Committee on **Taxation** recommends **HB 2406** be amended on page 2, in line 5, by striking all after "(1)"; by striking all in lines 6 through 8; in line 9, by striking "(2)";

And by redesignating subsections, paragraphs, subparagraphs and clauses accordingly;

Also on page 2, following line 26, by inserting:

"Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 79-224 is hereby amended to read as follows: 79-224.

(a) It is the purpose of this section to promote, stimulate, foster and encourage new investments in telecommunications machinery and equipment and railroad machinery and equipment in the state of Kansas, ~~to~~ recognize the dramatic changes within the telecommunications industry, ~~to~~ contribute to the economic recovery of the state, ~~to~~ enhance business opportunities in the state, ~~to~~ encourage the location of new businesses and industries in the state as well as the retention and expansion of existing businesses and industries and ~~to~~ promote the economic stability of the state by maintaining and providing employment opportunities, thereby contributing to the general welfare of the citizens of the state, by exempting from property taxation certain newly purchased or leased telecommunications machinery and equipment and railroad machinery and equipment, including all such machinery and equipment transferred into this state for the purpose of expanding an existing business or for the creation of a new business.

(b) The following described property, to the extent specified by this section, shall be and is hereby exempt from all property or ad valorem taxes levied under the laws of the state of Kansas:

First. Telecommunications machinery and equipment and railroad machinery and equipment acquired by qualified purchase or lease ~~made or entered into after June 30, 2006~~, as the result of a bona fide transaction not consummated for the purpose of avoiding taxation.

Second. Telecommunications machinery and equipment and railroad machinery and equipment transported into this state ~~after June 30, 2006~~, for the purpose of expanding

an existing business or creation of a new business.

(c) As used in this section:

(1) ~~"Acquired" shall not include the transfer of property pursuant to an exchange for stock securities, or the transfer of assets from one going concern to another due to a merger, reorganization or other consolidation;~~

~~(2)~~—"Qualified lease" means a lease of telecommunications machinery and equipment or railroad machinery and equipment for not less than 30 days for fair and valuable consideration where such machinery and equipment is physically transferred to the lessee to be used in the lessee's business or trade;

~~(3)~~(2) "qualified purchase" means a purchase of telecommunications machinery and equipment or railroad machinery and equipment for fair and valuable consideration where such machinery and equipment is physically transferred to the purchaser to be used in the purchaser's business or trade;

~~(4)~~(3) "railroad machinery and equipment" means railroad machinery and equipment classified for property tax purposes within subclass (3) of class 2 of section 1 of article 11 of the constitution of the state of Kansas; and

~~(5)~~(4) "telecommunications machinery and equipment" means network administrative assets; central office equipment; information, station and customer equipment; and outside plant equipment of a telecommunication company. "Telecommunications machinery and equipment" includes machinery and equipment placed in inventory or work-in-progress.

(d) The secretary of revenue is hereby authorized to adopt rules and regulations to administer the provisions of this section.";

Also on page 2, in line 27, by striking "is" and inserting "and K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 79-224 are";

And by renumbering sections accordingly;

On page 1, in the title, in line 2, after "for" by inserting "telecommunication, railroad,"; in line 5, after "and" by inserting "K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 79-224 and"; also in line 5, by striking "section" and inserting "sections"; and the bill be passed as amended.

Committee on **Transportation** recommends **HB 2579** be amended on page 1, in line 8, by striking "Vietnam KIA"; in line 12, by striking all before the period;

Also on page 1, in the title, in line 2, by striking "Vietnam KIA"; and the bill be passed as amended.

CHANGE OF REFERENCE

Speaker Hawkins announced the withdrawal of **HB 2622**, **HB 2711**, **HB 2733** from Committee on Elections and referral to Committee on Local Government.

Also, the withdrawal of **HB 2672** from Committee on Health and Human Services and referral to Committee on K-12 Education Budget.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT CHANGES

Speaker Hawkins announced the appointment of Rep. Howerton to replace Rep. Reavis on Committee on Health and Human Services on February 10, 2026.

Also, the appointment of Rep. Howerton to replace Rep. Blex on Committee on Health and Human Services on February 12, 2026.

Also, the appointment of Rep. Ballard to replace Rep. Winn on Committee on Education on, February 9, 2026.

Also, the appointment of Rep. Simmons to replace Rep. Winn on Committee on K-12 Education Budget on February 9, 2026.

Also, the appointment of Rep. Xu to replace Rep. L. Ruiz on Committee on Federal and State Affairs on, February 12, 2026.

On motion of Rep. Croft, the House adjourned until 11:00 a.m., Tuesday, February 10, 2026.

JENNY HAUGH, JULIA WERNER, *Journal Clerks.*

SUSAN W. KANNARR, *Chief Clerk.*

