

Journal of the House

THIRTIETH DAY

HALL OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
TOPEKA, KS, Wednesday, February 25, 2026, 11:00 a.m.

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

The roll was called with 121 members present.

Rep. Schlingensiepen was excused on verified illness.

Reps. Alcala, Long and Winn were excused on excused absence by the Speaker.

Excused later: Reps. Esau and Proctor.

Prayer by Chaplain Holmes:

Good Morning Father,

Thank You for the love You have for each of these Representatives and their staff gathered in this chamber today. There may have been times when Your love or favor were undeserved, but you gave it anyway. Thank You!

Proverbs 22:1 states, "A good name is to be more desired than great riches, favor is better than silver and gold. The rich and the poor have a common bond; the Lord is the maker of them all."

Whenever our time of work in this chamber ends, help us to have so invested our gifts and talents in such a way as to leave behind a good name. May the decisions made, and those which will be made, find favor with You and those who have chosen these Representatives as their voice. Give clarity of thought and purpose as situations arise in debate and legislation. May Your peace prevail.

In Jesus Name I pray, Amen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rep. Howell.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

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

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Sterling High School is the 1A State Football Champions! The Sterling High School football team defeated the Rossville Bulldogs in the 1A state championship game by a score of 35-34. The Black Bears ran for 352 yards and 4 touchdowns in the championship game. Sterling found themselves down 6 with 6:36 left in the game after they blocked an extra point. With that remaining time, they methodically drove down the field, converting three 4th downs and capped it off with a

touchdown pass and making the extra point to take a 1-point lead with only 52 seconds left in the game. The Black Bears made a defensive stand and held the Bulldogs by forcing a turnover on downs that allowed Sterling to kneel out the clock in victory formation. The Black Bears had an overall record of 13-0, were league champions with a record of 6-0, and district champions with a record of 5-0. The Black Bears scored a school record 588 points on the season and averaged 45 points per game. This is the second football championship in school history.

Rep. Fairchild introduced his guests.

Members on the Floor:

Head Coach Brent Schneider and Seniors Zane Farney, Wyatt Newberry, Kevin Ploutz, Logan Isaac, Cale Thomas, Porter Anderson and Brad Gillespie.

Members in the Gallery:

Assistant Coaches: Jaret Wohler, Andy Ball, Chad Bennett, and Eric Saiz

Players:

Davis Thompson	Duell Kizzar	Isaiah Clark
Bryson Thomas	Reece Schneider	Cameron Morris
Zac Wohler	Billy Higgins	Isaiah Sinnett
Jace Darnauer	Shade Carter	Derek Krone
Braedon Mayers	Quentin Kilgore	James McGlynn
Meyer Anderson	Eckley Ekart	Cody Hook
Deryn Maxwell	Wyatt Little	Cody Schweizer
Ryan Miles	Nolan Wellman	Jacob Strubhar
Jacob Lewis	Brentley Boor	Zach Edwards
David Myers	Easton Diasio	Easton Zimmerman
Gunnar Wilson	Kipton Smith	Zandor Bagby
Landon Aguilera	Tucker Haas	Maddox Link
Zane Wilson	Noah Drinnen	Josh Strubhar
Lane Weigel	Hayden Dobson	

Also, managers: Isaac Dyson and Caleb Giorgetti. Please join me in giving them a huge round of applause for bringing home the title and making Sterling proud.

Rep. Fairchild presented his guests with a House certificate in honor of their accomplishments.

REFERENCE OF BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills were referred to committees as indicated:

Agriculture and Natural Resources: **SB 390, SB 407, SB 425.**

Commerce, Labor and Economic Development: **SB 334, SB 418.**

Corrections and Juvenile Justice: **SB 459.**

Elections: **SB 65.**

Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications: **SB 380.**

Federal and State Affairs: **SB 362, SB 372, SB 379.**

Financial Institutions and Pensions: **SB 232, SB 375, SB 410.**

Health and Human Services: **SB 271, SB 431.**

Judiciary: **SB 398, SB 426, SB 427, SB 481.**

Taxation: **SB 303, SB 368.**
 Transportation: **SB 321, SB 353.**
 Water: **SB 317.**

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

February 23, 2026

Message to the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas:

Enclosed herewith is Executive Order No. 26-01 for your information.

EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 26-01

Concerning Relief from certain Transportation Restrictions for Wildfire Response

Laura Kelly

Governor

The above Executive Order is on file and open for inspection in the office of the Chief Clerk.

MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

Announcing passage of **SB 55, SB 360, SB 412, SB 430, SB 450, SB 451, SB 462, SB 463, SB 480, SB 487.**

Announcing passage of **SB 374, SB 422.**

INTRODUCTION OF SENATE BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

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

SB 55, SB 360, SB 374, SB 412, SB 422, SB 430, SB 450, SB 451, SB 462, SB 463, SB 480, SB 487.

MOTIONS TO CONCUR AND NONCONCUR

On motion of Rep. Lewis, the House nonconcurred in Senate amendments to **HB 2329** and asked for a conference.

Speaker Hawkins thereupon appointed Reps. Lewis, Howerton and Schlingensiepen as conferees on the part of the House.

On motion of Rep. Kessler, the House nonconcurred in Senate amendments to **HB 2331** and asked for a conference.

Speaker Hawkins thereupon appointed Reps. Kessler, Schmoie and Meyer as conferees on the part of the House.

CHANGE OF CONFEREES

Speaker Hawkins announced the appointment of Rep. Lewis to replace Rep. Schmoie as a member of the conference committee on **SB 254.**

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

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

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

Recommended that Committee report to **HB 2745** be adopted;

Also, on motion of Rep. A. Smith, **HB 2745** be amended As Amended by House Committee, on page 3, in line 33, by striking "clerk" and inserting "election officer"

Also, on further motion of Rep. A. Smith, **HB 2745** be amended As Amended by House Committee, on page 6, in line 2, by striking all after the period; by striking all in lines 3 through 11

Also, on motion of Rep. K. Williams, **HB 2745** be amended As Amended by House Committee, on page 4, by striking all in lines 2 through 5; by striking all in lines 41 through 43;

By striking all on page 5;

On page 6, by striking all in lines 1 through 33;

And by renumbering sections accordingly;

On page 1, in the title, in line 4, by striking all after the first semicolon; by striking all in line 5; in line 6, by striking all before "establishing"

Also, on motion of Rep. A. Smith, **HB 2745** be amended As Amended by House Committee, on page 7, in line 30, by striking all before "shall" and inserting "county clerk"

Also, on motion of Rep. Francis, **HB 2745** be amended As Amended by House Committee, on page 3, in line 25, by striking "10%" and inserting "5%"; in line 26, by striking "president of the"; in line 27, by striking "United States" and inserting "secretary of state"

Roll call was demanded on recommendation for passage.

On roll call, the vote was: Yeas 87; Nays 22; Present but not voting: 0; Absent or not voting: 16.

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

Nays: Amyx, Ballard, Bloom, Boatman, Carr, Curtis, Featherston, Gardner, Haskins, Hoye, McDonald, Neighbor, Ohaebosim, Poetter, Poskin, Schreiber, Stogsdill, Vaughn, Weigel, Wikle, Woodard, Xu.

Present but not voting: None.

Absent or not voting: Alcalá, Essex, Kessler, King, Long, Meyer, Mosley, Oropeza, Osman, Ousley, Ruiz, L., Ruiz, S., Schlingensiepen, Simmons, Tarwater, Winn.

HB 2745 be passed as amended.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Committee on **Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications** recommends **SB 348**, As Amended by Senate Committee, be passed and, because the committee is of the opinion that the bill is of a noncontroversial nature, be placed on the consent calendar.

CHANGE OF REFERENCE

Speaker Hawkins announced the withdrawal of **SB 379** from Committee on Federal and State Affairs and referral to Committee on Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications.

On motion of Rep. Croft, the House recessed until 5:30 p.m.

AFTERNOON SESSION

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

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

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

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

Recommended that Committee report recommending a substitute bill to **HB 2434** be adopted;

Roll call was demanded on motion of Rep. Hoye to amend **Sub HB 2434**, on page 187, in line 38, by adding \$2,500,000 to the dollar amount and by adjusting the dollar amount in line 38 accordingly; following line 38 by inserting:

"Provided, That expenditures in an amount of not less than \$2,500,000 shall be made by the above agency from such account during fiscal year 2027 to reduce the price copy of students for school lunches.";

On page 335, following line 4 by inserting:

"Sec. 137.

STATE FINANCE COUNCIL

(a) On the effective date of this act, of the \$40,000,000 appropriated for the above agency for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, by section 155(a) of chapter 117 of the 2025 Session Laws of Kansas from the state general fund in the state employee pay increase account, the sum of \$2,500,000 is hereby lapsed.";

And by redesignating sections accordingly;

And by adjusting dollar amounts accordingly if multiple amendments are adopted

On roll call, the vote was: Yeas 44; Nays 71; Present but not voting: 0; Absent or not voting: 10.

Yeas: Amyx, Ballard, Boatman, Bohi, Paige, Butler, Carlin, Carmichael, Carr, Collins, Curtis, Essex, Featherston, Haskins, Helgerson, Hoye, Martinez, McDonald, Melton, Meyer, Mosley, Neighbor, Ohaebosim, Oropeza, Osman, Ousley, Poskin,

Roeser, Ruiz, L., Ruiz, S., Sawyer, Clayton, Schreiber, Simmons, Smith, C., Stogsdill, Sweely, VanHouden, Vaughn, Weigel, Wikle, Williams, L., Woodard, Xu.

Nays: Anderson, Awerkamp, Barrett, Bergkamp, Bergquist, Blex, Bloom, Borjon, Brantley, Brunk, Bryce, Buehler, Caiharr, B. Carpenter, W. Carpenter, Chauncey, Corbet, Croft, Delperdang, Droge, Ellis, Estes, Fairchild, Francis, Gardner, Goddard, Goetz, Hawkins, Helwig, Hoffman, Hoheisel, Howe, Howell, Howerton, Huebert, Humphries, James, T. Johnson, Kessler, King, Lewis, McNorton, Minnix, Moser, Neelly, Pickert, Pishny, Rahjes, Resman, Rhiley, Roth, Sanders, Sappington, Schmoie, Schwertfeger, Seiwert, Smith, A., Steele, Sutton, Tarwater, Turk, Waggoner, Ward, Wasinger, Waymaster, White, Wilborn, Willcott, Williams, K., Wilson, Wolf.

Present but not voting: None.

Absent or not voting: Alcalá, Esau, Long, Poetter, Proctor, Reavis, Schlingensiepen, Stiens, Turner, Winn.

The motion of Rep. Hoye to amend did not prevail.

Also, roll call was demanded on motion of Rep. Ousley to amend **Sub HB 2434** on page 192, following line 13, by inserting:

"Provided, That if \$40,610,557 is transferred to such fund pursuant to subsection (m), then on the effective date of such transfer, expenditures in an amount of not less than \$40,610,557 shall be made by the above agency from such fund during fiscal year 2027 for the provision of special education and related services and be distributed to school districts in accordance with K.S.A. 72-2422(e), and amendments thereto.";

On page 195, following line 34, by inserting:

"(m) On July 1, 2026, or as soon thereafter as moneys are available, notwithstanding the provisions of any law to the contrary, the director of the budget, in consultation with the director of legislative research, shall identify and certify an amount of \$40,610,557 from any moneys in any state general fund account or any special revenue fund or funds that are moneys to the state for aid for coronavirus relief that are unexpended, recouped or otherwise have been returned to the state as unspent funds to the director of accounts and reports: *Provided*, That upon receipt of such certification, the director of accounts and reports shall transfer such certified amount to the ARPA agency state fiscal recovery fund (652-00-3756) of the above agency: *Provided further*, That if the director of the budget is unable to identify and certify such moneys and such transfer does not occur, then on or before July 30, 2026, the director of accounts and reports shall transfer \$40,610,557 from the state general fund to the special education services aid (652-00-1000-0700) account of the above agency."

On roll call, the vote was: Yeas 48; Nays 69; Present but not voting: 0; Absent or not voting: 8.

Yeas: Amyx, Ballard, Bloom, Boatman, Bohi, Borjon, Paige, Carlin, Carmichael, Carr, Collins, Curtis, Essex, Featherston, Haskins, Helgerson, Howe, Hoye, Martinez, McDonald, Melton, Meyer, Mosley, Neighbor, Ohaebosim, Oropeza, Osman, Ousley, Pickert, Poskin, Resman, Roeser, Ruiz, L., Ruiz, S., Sawyer, Clayton, Schreiber, Simmons, Stiens, Stogsdill, Sweely, VanHouden, Vaughn, Weigel, Wikle, Williams, L., Woodard, Xu.

Nays: Anderson, Awerkamp, Barrett, Bergkamp, Bergquist, Blex, Brantley, Brunk, Bryce, Buehler, Butler, Caiharr, B. Carpenter, W. Carpenter, Chauncey, Corbet, Croft, Delperdang, Droge, Ellis, Estes, Fairchild, Francis, Gardner, Goddard, Goetz, Hawkins, Helwig, Hoffman, Hoheisel, Howell, Howerton, Huebert, Humphries, James, T.

Johnson, Kessler, King, Lewis, McNorton, Minnix, Moser, Neelly, Pishny, Rahjes, Rhiley, Roth, Sanders, Sappington, Schmoe, Schwertfeger, Seiwert, Smith, A., Smith, C., Steele, Sutton, Tarwater, Turk, Turner, Waggoner, Ward, Wasinger, Waymaster, White, Wilborn, Willcott, Williams, K., Wilson, Wolf.

Present but not voting: None.

Absent or not voting: Alcalá, Esau, Long, Poetter, Proctor, Reavis, Schlingensiepen, Winn.

The motion of Rep. Ousley did not prevail.

Also, roll call was demanded on further motion of Rep. Ousley to amend **Sub HB 2434**, on page 192, following line 13, by inserting:

"Provided, That if \$14,600,000 is transferred to such fund pursuant to subsection (m), then on the effective date of such transfer, expenditures in an amount of not less than \$14,600,000 shall be made by the above agency from such fund during fiscal year 2027 for the provision of special education and related services and be distributed to school districts in accordance with K.S.A. 72-2422(e), and amendments thereto.";

On page 195, following line 34, by inserting:

"(m) On July 1, 2026, or as soon thereafter as moneys are available, notwithstanding the provisions of any law to the contrary, the director of the budget, in consultation with the director of legislative research, shall identify and certify an amount of \$14,600,000 from any moneys in any state general fund account or any special revenue fund or funds that are moneys to the state for aid for coronavirus relief that are unexpended, recouped or otherwise have been returned to the state as unspent funds to the director of accounts and reports: *Provided*, That upon receipt of such certification, the director of accounts and reports shall transfer such certified amount to the ARPA agency state fiscal recovery fund (652-00-3756) of the above agency."

On roll call, the vote was: Yeas 52; Nays 64; Present but not voting: 0; Absent or not voting: 9.

Yeas: Amyx, Ballard, Bloom, Boatman, Bohi, Borjon, Paige, Butler, Carlin, Carmichael, Carr, Collins, Curtis, Essex, Featherston, Haskins, Helgerson, Hoheisel, Howe, Hoyer, Martinez, McDonald, Melton, Meyer, Mosley, Neighbor, Ohaebosim, Oropeza, Osman, Ousley, Pickert, Poskin, Resman, Roeser, Ruiz, L., Ruiz, S., Sawyer, Clayton, Schreiber, Schwertfeger, Simmons, Stiens, Stogsdill, Sweely, Turner, VanHouden, Vaughn, Weigel, Wickle, Williams, L., Woodard, Xu.

Nays: Anderson, Awerkamp, Barrett, Bergkamp, Bergquist, Blex, Brantley, Brunk, Bryce, Buehler, Caiharr, B. Carpenter, W. Carpenter, Chauncey, Corbet, Croft, Delperdang, Droge, Ellis, Estes, Fairchild, Francis, Gardner, Goddard, Goetz, Hawkins, Helwig, Hoffman, Howell, Huebert, Humphries, James, T. Johnson, Kessler, King, Lewis, McNorton, Minnix, Moser, Neelly, Pishny, Rahjes, Rhiley, Roth, Sanders, Sappington, Schmoe, Seiwert, Smith, A., Smith, C., Steele, Sutton, Tarwater, Turk, Waggoner, Ward, Wasinger, Waymaster, White, Wilborn, Willcott, Williams, K., Wilson, Wolf.

Present but not voting: None.

Absent or not voting: Alcalá, Esau, Howerton, Long, Poetter, Proctor, Reavis, Schlingensiepen, Winn.

The motion of Rep. Ousley to amend did not prevail.

Also, on motion of Rep. Howe to amend **Sub HB 2434**, the motion did not prevail. and the substitute bill be passed.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Committee on **Taxation** recommends **HB 2234** be amended by substituting with a new bill to be designated as "Substitute for HOUSE BILL NO. 2234," as follows:

"Substitute for HOUSE BILL NO. 2234

By Committee on Taxation

"AN ACT concerning sales taxation; relating to exemptions; providing a sales tax exemption for purchases made by Junction City main street, inc.; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 79-3606 and repealing the existing section.";

And the substitute bill be passed.

(**Sub Bill for HB2234** was thereupon introduced and read by title.)

Committee on **Taxation** recommends **HB 2475** be amended on page 44, in line 39, after "of" by inserting "tangible"; and the bill be passed as amended.

Committee on **Taxation** recommends **HB 2644** be amended on page 1, in line 30, after "for" by inserting "personal property mobile homes used for residential purposes,";

Also on page 1, in the title, in line 2, after "of" by inserting "personal property mobile homes,"; and the bill be passed as amended.

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 2786, AN ACT concerning sales and compensating use tax; relating to city and countywide retailers' sales tax; approving an election held by Ellsworth county to impose countywide retailers' sales tax for the purpose of financing the costs of construction, equipping and furnishing of a law enforcement center and courthouse improvements; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 12-187 and 12-192 and repealing the existing sections, by Committee on Taxation.

HB 2787, AN ACT concerning alcoholic beverages; regarding temporary permits; correcting an inconsistency in the number of such permits allowed in a year; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 41-1201 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Federal and State Affairs.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT CHANGES

Speaker Hawkins announced the appointment of Rep. Resman to replace Rep. Esau on Committee on Judiciary on February 25, 2026.

Also, the appointment of Rep. Neighbor to replace Rep. Helgerson on Committee on Appropriations on, February 25, 2026.

Also, the appointment of Rep. McDonald to replace Rep. Carlin on Committee on Taxation on February 25, 2026.

Also, the appointment of Rep. Hoyer to replace Rep. Alcalá on Committee on Taxation on, February 25, 2026.

Also, the appointment of Rep. Xu to replace Rep. Alcalá on Committee on Appropriations on, February 26, 2026.

Also, the appointment of Rep. Martínez to replace Rep. Osman on Committee on Federal and State Affairs on, February 26, 2026.

Also, the appointment of Rep. Simmons to replace Rep. Haskins on Committee on Federal and State Affairs on February 26, 2026.

Also, the appointment of Rep. Neighbor to replace Rep. Helgeson on Committee on Appropriations on February 25, 2026.

REPORT ON ENGROSSED BILLS

HB 2460, HB 2462, HB 2481, HB 2489, HB 2505 reported correctly engrossed February 19, 2026.

HB 2320, HB 2502, HB 2511, HB 2520, HB 2521, Sub Bill for HB 2530, HB 2591, HB 2700 reported correctly engrossed February 20, 2026.

HB 2555 reported correctly engrossed February 22, 2026.

HB 2482, HB 2509, HB 2524, HB 2527, HB 2539, HB 2552, HB 2571, HB 2588, HB 2593, HB 2596, HB 2609, HB 2618, HB 2626, HB 2627, HB 2633, HB 2647, HB 2676, HB 2688, HB 2738 reported correctly engrossed February 23, 2026.

HB 2352, Sub Bill for HB 2357, HB 2589, HB 2614, HB 2639, HB 2651, HB 2761, HB 2763 reported correctly engrossed February 24, 2026.

HB 2745 reported correctly engrossed February 25, 2026.

REPORT ON ENROLLED RESOLUTIONS

HR 6031 reported correctly enrolled and properly signed on February 25, 2026.

On motion of Rep. Croft, the House adjourned until 11:00 a.m., Thursday, February 26, 2026.

JENNY HAUGH, JULIA WERNER, *Journal Clerks.*

SUSAN W. KANNARR, *Chief Clerk.*

