

Journal of the Senate

FIRST DAY

SENATE CHAMBER, TOPEKA, KANSAS
Monday, January 13, 2025, 2:00 p.m.

In accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of the State of Kansas and KSA 46-142(d), the 2025 Session of the Kansas Legislature was called to order by Secretary of State, Scott Schwab.

The roll was called from the certified list of members-elect, with forty members-elect present.

The Secretary recognized Doug Henkle, to deliver the invocation.

Heavenly Father, As this legislative session begins, I lift up to you the Kansas Senate of 2025. I thank you for each member of this distinguished body. Every senator is here by Your Divine hand in order to accomplish Your perfect plan for the people of Kansas. Each member has a critical role to play as the task is addressed.

You've blessed them with all they need to accomplish that which You have called them to do. In Your Word You guide us saying "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight." Lord, we tend to trust ourselves rather than You, to rely on our own abilities and good intentions instead of Your sovereign goodness and loving care. Remind us to trust in You alone.

For You are sovereign and have total, clear perspective. You never make a mistake. You possess the ability to bring everything to a purposeful conclusion and an ultimate goal. What a blessing to rest in Your warm embrace and to know that You love us and care about every detail of our lives. Thank you for personally caring about those things that concern us. Thank You for caring about them even more than we do.

As we face challenging times in our state and nation, we know, Lord, that You are our rock. I especially pray for those in California who have lost their earthly possessions to fires and for those fighting the fires. Protect them and hold them close. Remind them that, despite the circumstances, they are still Your personal concern and that they never disappear from Your radar screen.

We trust our state to Your loving care, Lord. Send Your Spirit to touch the hearts of each of our state's leaders. I thank You that You can be their standard. I pray that You would be the mark toward which they strive. Give them the wisdom to know what is right, and the courage to do it.

Father, give our governor Your wisdom as she leads the executive branch of our state government. I lift up to You President Masterson, Vice President Shallenburger, Majority Leader Blasi and Minority Leader Sykes. Give them Your direction as, together, they lead this chamber through the 2025 legislative session. In Jesus' Name, Amen!

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Secretary Schwab.

Secretary Schwab appointed Corey Carnahan to serve as temporary Secretary of the Senate until such time as a permanent Secretary is appointed.

Secretary Schwab requested the reader to call the roll of the Senate from the certified list of members-elect as submitted by the Secretary of State and recorded in the preorganizational meeting on December 2, 2024.

Forty members-elect were present.

OATH OF OFFICE

Secretary Schwab introduced the Honorable Dan Biles, Justice, Supreme Court of Kansas, who administered the Oath of Office to the newly-elected senators.

STATE OF KANSAS, COUNTY OF SHAWNEE, ss:

We, and each of us, do solemnly swear or affirm that we will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Kansas, and faithfully discharge the duties of the office of the Senator of the State of Kansas, so help us God.

District

1 Craig Bowser
 2 Marci Francisco
 3 Rick Kloos
 4 David Haley
 5 Jeff Klemm
 6 Pat Pettey
 7 Ethan Corson
 8 Cindy Holscher
 9 Beverly Gossage
 10 Mike Thompson
 11 Kellie Warren
 12 Caryn Tyson
 13 Tim Shallenburger
 14 Michael A. Fagg
 15 Virgil Peck
 16 Ty Masterson
 17 Mike Argabright
 18 Kenny Titus
 19 Patrick Schmidt
 20 Brenda S. Dietrich

District

21 Dinah Sykes
 22 Brad Starnes
 23 Adam Thomas
 24 J.R. Claeys
 25 Mary Ware
 26 Chase Blasi
 27 Joe Claeys
 28 Mike Petersen
 29 Oletha Faust Goudeau
 30 Renee Erickson
 31 Stephen Owens
 32 Larry W. Alley
 33 Tory Marie Blew
 34 Michael Murphy
 35 TJ Rose
 36 Elaine S. Bowers
 37 Douglas Shane
 38 Ronald Ryckman
 39 William Clifford
 40 Richard (Rick) Billinger

Subscribed and sworn to, or affirmed, before me this 13th day of January, 2025.

DAN BILES

Justice of the Supreme Court

CAUCUS REPORTS

**Majority Party Caucus
December 2, 2024**

The members-elect of the majority party of the Senate have met and caucused as required by K.S.A. 46-142, and have selected the following officers for the term:

Senate Officers:

- President of the Senate: Ty Masterson
- Vice President of the Senate: Tim Shallenburger

Caucus/Party Officers:

- Majority Leader: Chase Blasi
- Assistant Majority Leader: Caryn Tyson
- Majority Whip: Rick Kloos

TY MASTERSON
Chairperson
Majority Party Caucus

**Minority Party Caucus
December 2, 2024**

The members-elect of the minority party of the Senate have met and caucused as required by K.S.A. 46-142, and have selected the following officers for the term:

Caucus/Party Officers:

- Minority Leader: Dinah Sykes
- Assistant Minority Leader: Oleatha Faust Goudeau
- Minority Whip: Cindy Holscher
- Agenda Chair: Marci Francisco
- Caucus Chair: Ethan Corson

DINAH SYKES
Chairperson
Minority Party Caucus

CONSIDERATION OF OFFICER NOMINATIONS

Secretary Schwab proceeded with the business of the election of the officers of the Senate. Senator Blasi then placed in nomination the name of Senator Ty Masterson for the office of President of the Senate. Senator Sykes seconded the nomination. After inquiry by the chairperson, there being no other nominations, the nominations ceased and Senator Masterson was elected by acclamation.

Senator Blasi placed in nomination the name of Senator Tim Shallenburger for the office of Vice President of the Senate. Senator Sykes seconded the nomination. After inquiry by the chairperson, there being no other nominations, the nominations ceased and Senator Shallenburger was elected by acclamation.

OATH OF OFFICE

Secretary Schwab requested Senators Blasi and Sykes to escort the newly elected Vice President to the front of the Senate Chamber, where Justice Biles administered the Oath of Office.

I do solemnly swear, of affirm, that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Kansas, and faithfully discharge the duties of my respective office in the Kansas State Senate.

TIM SHALLENBURGER
Vice President

Subscribed and sworn to, or affirmed, before me this 13th day of January, 2025.

DAN BILES
Justice of the Supreme Court

OATH OF OFFICE

Secretary Schwab requested Senators Blasi and Sykes to escort the newly elected President to the front of the Senate Chamber, where Justice Biles administered the Oath of Office.

I do solemnly swear, of affirm, that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Kansas, and faithfully discharge the duties of my respective office in the Kansas State Senate.

TY MASTERSON
President

Subscribed and sworn to, or affirmed, before me this 13th day of January, 2025.

DAN BILES
Justice of the Supreme Court

Secretary Schwab passed the gavel to President Masterson.

REMARKS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Thank you for your confidence in me to serve as your Senate President. It is a tremendous honor to lead this body once again. Every four years, we are blessed with this unique opportunity to begin anew, to focus on policy rather than politics, to come together and build a better future for all Kansans.

I also want to congratulate each and every one of you for being elected to represent the people of your individual district as leaders within this beautiful and historic chamber. Each of us has a unique story, and those stories form unique perspectives which will bring critical value to our deliberations.

Of course, we also have varying levels of experience here in the State Capitol. Some of us have been here for several terms, some are arriving from across the rotunda, and several are completely brand new to the process. The people of Kansas will be well served by this diverse expertise and experience. The Kansas Senate is a deliberative body that thrives when we listen to one another, spend time with one another, and even if we disagree, seek to understand where the other is coming from. This approach to service enriches us and the people we serve. I also want to thank my family. I love all of you dearly and simply would not be in this seat today if not for your incredible support every step of the way. They are all very familiar with the campaign trail, even from a young age, and have had to be my defender. I have watched each of them face and overcome a significant life challenge with courage and I am so proud of each one.

A debt of gratitude must be extended to ALL of our families who are in attendance

today or watching and listening online. We would simply not be able to do the jobs we do here if not for your love and support. Thank you. I'm also thankful for our staff, both leadership staff as well as our Senate secretary and our clerks, and our Sargeant-of-Arms and his team, all of our administrative assistants and everyone who makes this building function from revisors to research to even those in the cafe. Please get to know them and take time to thank them!

Every four years, we're also reminded of our traditions that make our state and nation thrive. Our Constitutions, both federal and state. This beautiful State Capitol and the absolute honor it is to work here. The peaceful transfer of power and the rich traditions which we should never take for granted. The ability to engage in respectful and passionate debates about the issues that come before us. And most of all, the people whom we serve, in every corner of our state, who simply want to know their government is putting them first. Make no mistake, our debates will sometimes be passionate, and they should be. We are making important decisions that impact the lives of the people we serve. There will be tough debates, difficult votes, and moments we disagree. Four years ago, I asked the body to think of several words as we embark on our work: Wisdom. Discernment. Respect. Prudence. Civility. Integrity. Humility. If we remember these important attributes as we debate, it will serve us well and serve Kansans well.

Thank you again for the trust you have placed in me and I look forward to working together for the citizens of our great state. God bless you all.—SENATOR MASTERSON

REMARKS FROM THE MINORITY LEADER

Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, staff, members of the press, and my fellow Kansans: we gather again to serve our neighbors as we start the 2025 legislative session. Mr. President, on behalf of the Senate Democratic caucus, congratulations on your re-election as President of the Kansas Senate. Congratulations to the other Senate Republicans representing your caucus in their positions of leadership.

To my fellow Democratic Senators: thank you for trusting me to lead the caucus over the next four years. Welcome to the new members of the Kansas Senate. I'm pleased to welcome our new Democratic Senator, Patrick Schmidt: we look forward to you joining in the proud tradition of service. Welcome to my new Republican colleagues. I look forward to learning your stories and understanding what motivates you to work together for all the people of Kansas.

To our families and friends joining us in person or watching online, thank you for your support. Thank you especially to my family for your love and support. Jeffrey, William, and Tyler: we've walked down this path together since my first run for office. I know the sacrifices we've all made to serve our neighbors. I'm deeply thankful for each of you. As a moment of personal pride, Congratulations to William for graduating from college (a semester early) this past December.

Today, we celebrate the hard-working people of Kansas. We are a people who work hard to provide a better future for our children. We are a people who believe in the opportunity for each of us to take our God-given talents and develop them to build a strong future for families and our communities. We are a people who, given a chance; take that opportunity and make a difference.

Like many other states in our great nation, we face challenges. While we work hard,

often that hard work benefits shareholders and corporations leaving workers and their families behind. Senate Democrats support policies that generate good jobs that provide wages that allow families to get ahead. I look forward to collaborating on policies that reward workers and help them put food on the table and care for their families.

I'm proud of how Kansans understand that families thrive in communities. Kansans show up for each other. We all know what it is like to help a neighbor. We cheer on each other's kids. We celebrate the examples of leaders like President Jimmy Carter who embodied a faith that valued every person as neighbor: both close to home and across the world. He dedicated his life to making the United States live up to our ideals of justice and equality.

Justice and equality is allowing every person the opportunity to meet their God-given potential. We know that starts with the very earliest days of each child's life. Investing early in developing a child's potential pays dividends for a lifetime. Our children are our most valuable resource.

Beyond those early days, Kansans understand the critical role education plays in our children's lives. It is so important to us as a state that we put it in our constitution. We know the community pride we have around our public schools that are often the anchor of our communities. That importance isn't a rural, urban, or even a suburban issue. As we look to support strong educational outcomes, we must choose policies that help every single Kansas child.

We must support our educators and ensure they have what they need as they invest their lives in our children. We've worked to bring funding for education to constitutionally acceptable levels. That work is not yet finished. We must not turn back now, and we must fully fund special education.

Together, those of us elected by voters, have an opportunity to address issues that make a real difference in people's lives. We could be distracted by culture wars, but doing that only divides us. Kansans want us to partner together to make this state the best place to live, work, and raise a family.

Mr. President, my Senate colleagues, the issues Kansas faces are not red, or blue. We must honor the people who sent us here. They expect us to roll up our sleeves, check our egos at the door and work to make things better for all residents of our state.

Senate Democrats are ready to set aside ideological agendas to serve the needs of every Kansan. We hope you will join us in that honest and honorable work.—SENATOR SYKES

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

President Masterson introduced Dr. Keith Ratzlaff, President of the Kansas Academy of Family Physicians and thanked the Academy for providing the Doctor of the Day Program in the Statehouse during the 2025 Legislative Session.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills were introduced and read by title:

SB 1, AN ACT exempting the state of Kansas from daylight saving time; providing for moving to permanent daylight saving time upon an act of Congress requiring such move, by Senator Titus.

SB 2, AN ACT concerning school districts; relating to question submitted elections

on the issuance of bonds by a school district; validating the election results for the bond issuance question submitted by the board of education of USD 200, Greeley county, by Senators Blew and Clifford.

SB 3, AN ACT concerning health and healthcare; relating to the lay caregiver act; requiring the department of health and environment to audit hospital compliance with such act and report such audit results to the legislature; amending K.S.A. 65-431a and repealing the existing section, by Legislative Post Audit Committee.

INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION OF CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

Senators Masterson, Blasi and Sykes introduced the following Senate Concurrent Resolution which was read:

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 1601—

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 Senate of the State of Kansas, the House of Representatives concurring therein: That the Secretary of the Senate and the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives 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 the Governor may have to present.

On emergency motion of Senator Blasi **SCR 1601** was adopted by voice vote.

INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION OF SENATE RESOLUTIONS

Senators Masterson, Blasi and Sykes introduced the following Senate resolution, which was read:

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1701—

A RESOLUTION relating to the organization of the Senate.

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That the Secretary of the Senate notify the House of Representatives that the Senate is organized with the following officers:

- Ty Masterson, president,
- Tim Shallenburger, vice president,
- Chase Blasi, majority leader,
- Dinah Sykes, minority leader,
- Corey Carnahan, secretary,
- Don Cackler, sergeant at arms,

and awaits the pleasure of the House of Representatives.

On emergency motion of Senator Blasi **SR 1701** was adopted by voice vote.

Senators Masterson, Blasi and Sykes introduced the following Senate resolution, which was read:

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1702—

A RESOLUTION relating to assignments of seats of the Senate.

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That the permanent seats of the Senate are hereby assigned as follows: Alley 35, Argabright 5, Billinger 1, Blasi 24, Blew 13, Bowers 29, Bowser 17, J.R. Claeys 2, Joseph Claeys 6, Clifford 18, Corson 20, Dietrich 32, Erickson 27, Fagg 33, Faust-Goudeau 21, Francisco 8, Gossage 28, Haley 22, Holscher 7, Klemp 3, Kloos 11, Masterson 23, Murphy 19, Owens 34, Peck

30, Peterson 10, Pettey 37, Rose 4, Ryckman 36, Schmidt 40, Shallenburger 9, Shane 16, Starnes 14, Sykes 38, Thomas 12, Thompson 26, Titus 15, Tyson 25, Ware 39 and Warren 31.

On emergency motion of Senator Blasi **SR 1702** was adopted by voice vote.

Senators Masterson, Blasi and Sykes introduced the following Senate resolution, which was read:

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1703—

A RESOLUTION providing temporary rules for the Senate until permanent rules are adopted.

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That except as otherwise hereinafter provided, the rules of the Senate for 2021-2024 in effect at the time of adjournment sine die of the 2024 regular session of the legislature shall constitute the temporary rules of the Senate for the 2025 regular session until permanent rules are adopted.

Be it further resolved: That Rule 7 of the rules of the Senate for 2021-2024 be amended to read as follows and shall constitute a temporary rule of the Senate until a permanent rule is adopted:

Rule 7. Standing Committees. (a) There shall be a standing committee named the Committee on Organization, Calendar and Rules which shall consist of three members, the chairperson of which shall be the president of the Senate, and the vice chairperson of which shall be the majority leader of the Senate. The Vice President of the Senate shall be a member of the committee. No bill or resolution other than resolutions adopting, amending or revoking rules of the Senate or Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives, shall be introduced by or be referred to the Committee on Organization, Calendar and Rules.

(b) The following shall be the other standing committees:

	Number of members
1. Agriculture and Natural Resources	11
2. Assessment and Taxation	9
3. Commerce	11
4. Confirmation Oversight	6
5. Education	11
6. Federal and State Affairs	11
7. Financial Institutions and Insurance	9
8. Governmental Efficiency	9
9. Interstate Cooperation	7
10. Judiciary	13
11. Local Government, Transparency and Ethics	9
12. Public Health and Welfare	11
13. Transportation	11
14. Utilities	11
15. Ways and Means	11

(c) The president of the Senate, with the advice of the majority leader and the vice president of the Senate, shall appoint the members of each committee, shall appoint the chairperson and vice chairperson or vice chairpersons thereof and shall designate the

ranking minority member of each committee. The minority leader shall submit recommendations for the appointment of minority members to the standing committees of the Senate to the Committee on Organization, Calendar and Rules. The Committee on Organization, Calendar and Rules shall have a standing subcommittee on calendar which shall be the president of the Senate, the vice president of the Senate and the majority leader of the Senate. The Majority Leader shall be the chairperson of the subcommittee. The Committee on Organization, Calendar and Rules may establish such other subcommittees of the Committee on Organization, Calendar and Rules as the Committee deems appropriate.

(d) The Committee on Organization, Calendar and Rules shall have a standing subcommittee on rules which shall be the president of the Senate, the vice president of the Senate, the majority leader of the Senate, one member of the Senate from the majority party appointed jointly by the president of the Senate, the vice president of the Senate and the majority leader of the Senate and one member who shall be the minority leader of the Senate or the designee of the minority leader. The chairperson of the subcommittee on rules shall be the vice president of the Senate. The subcommittee on rules shall consider rules questions arising during a convening of the Senate.

(e) The Committee on Organization, Calendar and Rules and all of its subcommittees may close their meetings.

(f) The two major political parties shall have proportional representation on each standing committee other than the Committee on Organization, Calendar and Rules. In the event application of the preceding sentence results in a fraction, the party having a fraction exceeding 0.5 shall receive representation as though such fraction were a whole number.

(g) The Senate standing Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources shall constitute the successor committee to the Senate standing Committee on Agriculture and the Senate standing Committee on Natural Resources for purposes of references in statutory and other documents. The Senate standing Committee on Ethics, Elections and Local Government shall constitute the successor committee to the Senate standing Committee on Ethics and Elections and the Senate standing Committee on Local Government.

(h) For purposes of references in statutes and other documents, the Senate standing Committee on Local Government shall constitute the successor committee to the Senate standing Committee on Ethics, Elections and Local Government regarding local government matters and the Senate standing Committee on Transparency and Ethics shall constitute the successor committee to the Senate standing Committee on Ethics, Elections and Local Government regarding ethics and election matters. For purposes of references in statutes and other documents, the Senate standing committee on Local Government, Transparency and Ethics shall constitute the successor committee to the Senate standing committee on Transparency and Ethics.

On emergency motion of Senator Blasi **SR 1703** was adopted by voice vote.

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

The following appointments made by the Governor, were submitted to the Senate during the 2024 Interim for confirmation, and their appointment letters were read:

Herbert Iams, Public Member, State Banking Board (submitted: March 13, 2024)

Paul Schneider, Brigadier General, Kansas National Guard (submitted: April 12,

2024)

Christopher Kennedy, Secretary, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (submitted: June 20, 2024)

Taylor Hight, Member, State Banking Board (submitted: July 26, 2024)

Margaret LaRue, Commissioner, Kansas Lottery Commission (submitted: July 26, 2024)

Kerrie Lonard, Kansas Child Advocate, Office of the Child Advocate (submitted: July 26, 2024)

Irvin Mitchell, Member, State Banking Board (submitted: July 26, 2024)

David Moses, Member, Kansas Racing and Gaming Commission (submitted: July 26, 2024)

Leonard Wolfe, At-Large Member, State Banking Board (submitted: July 26, 2024)

Christal Watson, Industry Representative, Kansas Human Rights Commission (submitted July 30, 2024)

Haely Ordoyne, State Long-Term Care Ombudsman (submitted: November 4, 2024)

The following appointment made by the Governor and submitted to the Senate for confirmation was introduced and the appointment letter read:

Kathy Wolfe-Moore, Regent, Kansas Board of Regents (submitted: November 4, 2024)

COMMUNICATION FROM STATE OFFICERS

The following appointment made by the Attorney General, was submitted to the Senate during the 2023 Interim for confirmation, and the appointment letter was read:

Richard Samaniego, Chair, Crime Victims Compensation Board (submitted: December 13, 2023)

During the 2024 Interim, the following reports were received by the Office of the Secretary of the Senate:

Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems Report, State Department of Education

Three Cueing Legislative Report, State Department of Education

Consumer Protection Annual Report, Kansas Attorney General

KOMA-KORA Report, Kansas Attorney General

2024 State Child Death Review Board Annual Report, Kansas Attorney General

Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee Annual Report, Department of Corrections

Annual Certification of the Federal Employment Security Trust Fund, Department of Labor

Annual Crime Victims Compensation Report, Kansas Attorney General

USD Early Retirement Incentive Programs, State Department of Education

2023-24 Mental Health Intervention Team Pilot Program Report, State Department of Education

2025 Capital Improvement State Aid Report, State Department of Education

Radioactive Waste Compact Annual Report, Central Interstate Low-Level

Radioactive Waste Compact Commission

Annual Report, Johnson County Educational Research Triangle Authority

Annual Report, Kansas Pregnancy Care Network

Kansas Blueprint for Literacy, Board of Regents

FY 2024 Consumer Protection and Antitrust Report, Kansas Attorney General

FY 2024 Annual Report, Pooled Money Investment Board

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Annual Financial Report, Kansas Development Finance Authority
Report on the Tax Credit for Low Income Student Scholarship Program, State Department of Education

Report on the Promoting Achievement in Computer Knowledge Act, State Department of Education

Annual Report on the Every Child Can Read Act, State Department of Education

2024 Annual Conceal Carry Report, Kansas Attorney General

2024 Kansas Household Hazardous Waste Program, Kansas Department of Health and Environment

2024 Solid Waste Program, Kansas Department of Health and Environment

2024 Dry Cleaner Program, Kansas Department of Health and Environment

2024 Kansas Public Water Supply Loan Fund, Kansas Department of Health and Environment

2024 Kansas Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund, Kansas Department of Health and Environment

From the Office of Governor Laura Kelly:

Enclosed herewith is Executive Orders 24-05 through 25-01

Enclosed herewith is Executive Directives No.24-585 through 24-592

On motion of Senator Blasi, the Senate adjourned until 2:30 p.m., Tuesday, January 14, 2025.

CHARLENE BAILEY, CINDY SHEPARD, *Journal Clerks.*

COREY CARNAHAN, *Secretary of the Senate.*

