



As the 2026 Legislative session quickly progresses, I continue to advocate for the issues that matter most to you. I appreciate your continued feedback and updates.

In the Capitol:

Monday over 200 Kansan's gathered for this year's **Black Kansas Legislative Day**. The event highlighted issues impacting the Black community through a speech from Governor, Laura Kelly panels, policy briefings and more.

The Kansas Statehouse honored **Armed Forces Appreciation Day** on Wednesday. Governor Kelly signed a proclamation honoring those in uniform and their contributions.

Coming up: If you have any questions, comments, or concerns about bills in this section please reach out to my office.

Veterans and Military:

Monday **HB2214 was passed out of committee**, the bill would allow private veteran benefits consulting groups to operate within the state of Kansas. The bill was debated on general orders, and I offered one of many amendments that would address opponent's concerns, none were added. I objected because the bill would private consultants to charge fees for assisting with VA benefits claims.

A **hearing** was held on **HB2626** would expand veterans' preference in government jobs to include current members of the national guard and their eligible spouses.

The committee **heard HB2732** the bill would direct the state registrar of vital statistics to provide death certificates to survivors of deceased veterans with a service-connected disability

Held a **hearing** on **HB2758** would direct the capitol preservation committee to create a registry kiosk to be placed in the state capitol of Kansas military forces killed in action or died of wounds from active duty.

Veterans and Military **heard HB2627** which would expand permissive preference in private employment to include current service members and eligible spouses.

Taxation:

HB2457 was heard on Thursday, the bill would change local authorities' ability to handle property taxes. The bill requires administrators, except school districts, to hold elections to increase property taxes more than 3%. The bill would also establish a \$60 million fund to be shared among counties and cities that do not exceed the 3% limit.

Proponents argue Kansans need tax relief and this bill would provide relief on cost-of-living concerns. While opponents, including the Kansas League of Municipalities, cited concerns about investment bonds and inability to predict budget needs more than a year in advance.

On the House Floor: These bills will now move to the Senate.

Tuesday 02/10/2026

- **HB 2467** — Prohibits past convictions or sanctions for failure to comply with a traffic citation that are more than five years old from being considered by courts or the division of vehicles and eliminating certain notice requirements for the division of vehicles related to suspended or restricted drivers' licenses.
 - **Passed**
 - Voted Yea
- **HB 2433** — Clarifies the legal role of the county in the transfer or appropriation of water.

- **Passed**
 - Voted Yea
- **HB 2542** — Designating a portion of United States highway 56 as the Bill Tucker memorial highway.
 - **Passed**
 - Voted Yea
- **HB 2438** — Imposing restrictions on websites that can accept and transmit voter registration applications. For a platform to be approved it must implement data security, privacy, and audibility.
 - **Passed**
 - Voted Nay
- **SCR 1615** — Honoring the life and legacy of Charlie Kirk and recognizing October 14 as Charlie Kirk Free Speech Day.
 - **Passed**
 - Voted Nay

Wednesday 02/11/2026

- **HB 2466** — Extending the sunset for the angel investor tax credit to 2031.
 - **Passed**
 - Voted Nay
- **HB 2487** — Defining teacher and paraprofessional for purposes of eligibility for a scholarship under the Kansas education opportunity scholarship program. The bill would define, “employed in Kansas as a teacher or paraprofessional” to “the individual is an employee of the school district and whose primary employment duties are providing classroom instruction.”
 - **Passed**
 - Voted Yea
- **HB 2243** — Requiring the secretary for children and families to enter a memorandum of understanding with military installations to refer children in need of care cases involving children of military personnel to a military family advocacy program.

- **Passed**
- Voted Yea
- **HB 2533** — Enacting the occupational therapy licensure compact to provide interstate practice privileges to occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants. Would allow active duty military personnel and their spouses to designate a home state where such service member or spouse has a current license in good standing while on active duty.
 - **Passed**
 - Voted Yea
- **HB 2534** — Enacting the respiratory care interstate compact to provide interstate practice privileges to respiratory therapists. Would not require active duty military personnel or their spouse to pay additional fee that may be required.
 - **Passed**
 - Voted Yea
- **HB 2478** — Requiring that advanced practice registered nurses and registered nurse anesthetists submit to a criminal history check upon application for a nursing license.
 - **Passed**
 - Voted Yea

Thursday 02/12/2026

- **H Sub for H Sub for HB 2132** – Would amend the Revised Kansas Code for Care of Children (CINC Code) concerning when law enforcement officer may take a child under 18 years of age into custody. If the officer has reason to believe the child will be harmed or the child is experiencing a behavioral health crisis.
 - **Passed**
 - Voted Yea
- **HB 2440** - Excluding owners of oil leases from having to file request for exemption with the board of tax appeals for property tax exemptions.
 - **Passed**
 - Voted Yea

- **HB 2468** — Electing to participate in the federal tax credit for individual contributions to scholarship granting organizations and increasing the aggregate tax credit limit on the tax credit for low-income students scholarship program.
 - **Passed**
 - Voted Nay
- **HB 2470** - Providing that certain municipalities may designate the entire municipality within a neighborhood revitalization area under the Kansas neighborhood revitalization act.
 - **Passed**
 - Voted Yea
- **HB 2479** - Authorizing electronic monitoring with victim notification as a condition of release prior to trial for certain offenders charged with a domestic violence offense, domestic battery, stalking or violation of a protective order.
 - **Passed**
 - Voted Yea
- **HB 2557** - Enacting and joining with other states in the interstate compact for the placement of children and authorizing the administration and implementation of the compact.
 - **Passed**
 - Voted Yea
- **HB 2579** - Designating a portion of K-49 highway as the Pvt Michael E Gerber memorial highway Vietnam KIA.
 - **Passed**
 - Voted Yea
- **HB 2416** – Creating the Kansas motorsports venue protection act to provide motorsport venues immunity from civil actions of nuisance.
 - **Passed**
 - Voted Yea
- **HB 2448** – Requiring citizenship status be displayed on driver’s license.
 - **Passed**
 - Voted No

STATE NEWS:

- [Lawmakers consider keeping food additives out of school lunches; Ag weighs in](#)
- [Kansas lawmakers consider lowering mandatory age to start school](#)
- ['We exist': Activists protest transgender bathroom bill at the Kansas Statehouse](#)
- [New House plan limits local government spending in effort to hold down property taxes](#)
- [Kansas Senate bill may add \\$17M to oversight of health and welfare programs](#)
- [Kansas in-state tuition policies for non-citizens violate federal law: Kobach](#)
- [Kansas bill would phase out property taxes, replace with retail surcharge](#)
- [Girod says KU concerned about multiple legislative proposals, including tuition freeze, changes to tenure](#)
- [Kansas lawmakers weigh benefits, drawbacks of lower property taxes](#)
- [Kansas lawmakers split on proposed Kansas minimum wage hike](#)
- [Lawmakers may mandate Kansas follows CDC childhood vaccine schedule](#)
- [Big tobacco, Kansas lawmakers take on unauthorized vapes](#)
- [Kansas local government leaders question 'millions' in costs, lack of detail in bathroom bill](#)
- [Kansas bill calls for communism class, civics test amid claims of 'anti-Americanism' in schools](#)
- [Kansas lawmakers consider bill to reschedule kratom as Schedule 1 drug](#)
- [Kansas' first new law of 2026 increases penalties for buying sex](#)
- ['Psychological warfare': Kansas lawmakers hear testimony from parents who lost sons to sextortion](#)
- [Forty individuals, organizations object to Kansas Senate bill adding barriers to food and health aid](#)
- [Kansas farm bankruptcies surge as mental health crisis deepens](#)
- [Kansas City, Kansas, may also ban ICE detention centers. Officials just took a big step](#)
- [CoreCivic doubles down on argument that it can operate ICE prison without permit](#)
- [Nearly \\$14 million in funding for rural housing development in Kansas](#)
- [Why DNC chair thinks Kansas Dems will break GOP supermajority in 2026](#)
- [Kansas Republican staunchly opposed nationalized voting. Does he back Trump now?](#)

REMINDER:

All committee hearings and chamber proceedings can be found on the Kansas Legislature's [YouTube](#) page.

All legislation, committee membership, and meeting times can be found on the Kansas Legislature's [Website](#) page.

It is a pleasure to serve as your State Representative. I look forward to hearing from you and continuing to work with you on issues that matter most to our community.

Sydney Carlin
(66th District)