Journal of the Senate

FORTY-FIRST DAY

SENATE CHAMBER, TOPEKA, KANSAS
Thursday, March 12, 2026, 2:30 p.m.

The Senate was called to order by President Ty Masterson.

The roll was called with 40 senators present.

Invocation Dr. David Walker, Harvest Christian Center, International, guest of Senator Klemp:

Mighty God, who is in heaven, as this assembly comes before You, we acknowledge that You Jesus are the way truth and life. It is Your sovereignty and providence that will last forever for You are our Alpha and Omega.

Father God, You are our provider, protector, healer, deliver, way maker, helper and salvation. That You God are our shepherd and we are our the sheep of Your pasture. You are not just the God of ethnicity, social, economic status or of a political party. This assembly acknowledges that You are God alone and of all people.

Father God, we ask that You will grant wisdom to those that You have promoted to serve You and Your people in this state. Father, turn the hearts of those in this assembly to Your will. Remove the spirit of strife, pride, envy and selfish ambitions from this assembly. Let unity, peace compassion and the attitude of a servant leader prevail in this assembly.

Father God, open the hearts of those in this assembly to Your Holy Spirit, so they will govern according to Your righteousness and judgement. Help this assembly to govern with empathy and compassion so all in this great state of Kansas can live in peace, harmony and prosperity until your kingdom comes.

May Your will be done as it is in heaven that it will be in this earth. In Jesus Christ's Name, we pray, Amen!

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Masterson.

INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION OF SENATE RESOLUTIONS

Senator Miller introduced the following Senate resolution, which was read by title:

SENATE RESOLUTION **No. 1734—**

A RESOLUTION congratulating and commending Kansas Health Science University Kansas College of Osteopathic Medicine for its inaugural commencement.

WHEREAS, Kansas Health Science University established Kansas College of Osteopathic Medicine (KansasCOM), the first osteopathic medical school in the state of Kansas, with the mission to expand access to medical education and strengthen the healthcare workforce across the region; and

WHEREAS, KansasCOM welcomed its inaugural class in 2022, marking a

significant milestone in Kansas' commitment to addressing physician shortages, especially in rural and underserved communities; and

WHEREAS, KansasCOM now prepares to graduate its first cohort of osteopathic physicians on May 9, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Students in the inaugural class have demonstrated exceptional achievement through innovative research, clinical excellence, community health outreach and leadership within professional and service organizations, establishing a strong foundation for future cohorts and contributing meaningfully to the advancement of medical education in Kansas; and

WHEREAS, Kansas Health Science University is guided by core values of innovation, integrity, humility, community, teamwork, inclusion, excellence and a steadfast commitment to improving the health and well-being of all Kansans, which are reflected in the education and character of KansasCOM's inaugural graduating class; and

WHEREAS, KansasCOM's emphasis on service, compassion and the osteopathic philosophy of whole-person care aligns with Kansas' long-standing values of community, stewardship and the advancement of education for the public good: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That we congratulate and commend Kansas Health Science University Kansas College of Osteopathic Medicine for its inaugural commencement; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate shall send 10 enrolled copies of this resolution to Kimberly Long, President of the Kansas Health Science Center.

On emergency motion of Senator Miller **SR 1734** was adopted.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

Announcing passage of **HB 2769.**

Announcing passage of **SB 229,** as amended by **H Sub SB 229**.

Announcing passage of **SB 271**, as amended; **SB 430**, as amended.

The House accedes to the request of the Senate for a conference on **SB 300** and has appointed Representatives Hoheisel, Stiens and Xu as conferees on the part of the House.

The House accedes to the request of the Senate for a conference on **SB 331** and has appointed Representatives Hoheisel, Stiens and Xu as conferees on the part of the House.

The House accedes to the request of the Senate for a conference on **SB 410** and has appointed Representatives Hoheisel, Stiens and Xu as conferees on the part of the House.

The House accedes to the request of the Senate for a conference on **SB 412** and has appointed Representatives Hoheisel, Stiens and Xu as conferees on the part of the House.

The House nonconcurs in Senate amendments to **HB 2468**, requests a conference and has appointed Representatives Estes, Chauncey and Stogsdill as conferees on the part of the House.

The House nonconcurs in Senate amendments to **HB 2513**, requests a conference and has appointed Representatives Waymaster, Williams, K. and Ballard as conferees on the part of the House.

Announcing passage of **SB 325**, as amended; **SB 353**, as amended; **SB 403**, as amended; **SB 435**, as amended.

The House nonconcurs in Senate amendments to **HB 2422**, requests a conference and has appointed Representatives Humphries, Williams, L. and Osman as conferees on the part of the House.

The House nonconcurs in Senate amendments to **HB 2479**, requests a conference and has appointed Representatives Humphries, Williams, L. and Osman as conferees on the part of the House.

INTRODUCTION OF HOUSE BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

HB 2769 was thereupon introduced and read by title.

CONSIDERATION OF ORIGINAL MOTIONS

On motion of Senator Billinger, the Senate acceded to the request of the House for a conference on **HB 2513**.

The President appointed Senators Billinger, Kloos and Pettey as conferees on the part of the Senate.

On motion of Senator Erickson, the Senate acceded to the request of the House for a conference on **HB 2468**.

The President appointed Senators Erickson, Thomas and Sykes as conferees on the part of the Senate.

On motion of Senator Warren, the Senate acceded to the request of the House for a conference on **HB 2479**.

The President appointed Senators Warren, Titus and Corson as conferees on the part of the Senate.

On motion of Senator Warren, the Senate acceded to the request of the House for a conference on **HB 2422**.

The President appointed Senators Warren, Titus and Corson as conferees on the part of the Senate.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

On motion of Senator Blasi, the Senate resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, for consideration of bills on the calendar under the heading of General Orders with Senator Bowser in the chair.

On motion of Senator Bowser the following summary report was adopted:

HB 2433, HB 2478, HB 2540 be passed.

SB 515 be passed as amendd by Committee of the Whole.

Sub HB 2250; HB 2413, HB 2507, HB 2568, HB 2605, HB 2652 be passed as amended by adoption of the committee reports.

S Sub HB 2745 be passed over and retain a place on the calendar.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ACTIONS

SB 515 be amended by motion of SenatorBlasi; on page 2, following line 19, by inserting:

"Sec. 2. (a) There shall be a moratorium on interscholastic contests and activities and any practices for such contests or activities during the following time periods:

(1) Every Sunday;

(2) a consecutive five-day period, including December 25, as established by the executive board;

(3) a consecutive four-day period beginning at 6:00 p.m. on the Thursday before Easter and ending at 11:59 p.m. on Easter Sunday;

(4) a consecutive seven-day period, including July 4, as established by the executive board; and

(5) every Wednesday between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 11:59 p.m. from September 1 through April 30 each year.

(b) During any such moratorium, there shall be no interscholastic activities or practices and no staff members present for any such activities or practices, regardless of whether such activities or practices take place on or off the school premises.";

And by renumbering sections accordingly;

On page 1, in the title, in line 5, after "status" by inserting "; providing for a moratorium on interscholastic contests, activities and practices during certain time periods"

Sub HB 2250 be amended by adoption of the committee amendments.

HB 2413 be amended by adoption of the committee amendments.

HB 2433 be passed.

An amendment was offered by Senator Murphy on **HB 2433**. A ruling of the Chair was requested as to the germaneness of the amendment. The Chair of the Rules Committee ruled the amendment germane. The amendment was rejected.

HB 2478 be passed.

HB 2507 be amended by adoption of the committee amendments.

HB 2540 be passed.

HB 2568 be amended by adoption of the committee amendments.

HB 2605 be amended by adoption of the committee amendments.

HB 2652 be amended by adoption of the committee amendments.

HB 2745 be passed over and retain a place on the calendar.

CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS TO CONCUR AND NONCONCUR

On motion of Senator Petersen the Senate nonconcurred in the House amendments to **SB 325** and requested a conference committee be appointed.

The Vice President appointed Senators Petersen, Klemp and Corson as a conference committee on the part of the Senate.

On motion of Senator Petersen the Senate nonconcurred in the House amendments to **SB 353** and requested a conference committee be appointed.

The Vice President appointed Senators Petersen, Klemp and Corson as a conference committee on the part of the Senate.

On motion of Senator Petersen the Senate nonconcurred in the House amendments to **SB 403** and requested a conference committee be appointed.

The Vice President appointed Senators Petersen, Klemp and Corson as a conference committee on the part of the Senate.

On motion of Senator Dietrich the Senate nonconcurred in the House amendments to **SB 435** and requested a conference committee be appointed.

The Vice President appointed Senators Dietrich, Fagg and Miller as a conference committee on the part of the Senate.

On motion of Senator Alley the Senate nonconcurred in the House amendments to **H Sub SB 229** and requested a conference committee be appointed.

The Vice President appointed Senators Alley, Owens and Faust Goudeau as a conference committee on the part of the Senate.

FINAL ACTION ON BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

SB 304, AN ACT concerning the department of health and environment office of vital statistics; relating to information regarding government-administered savings accounts; establishing the born to invest act; requiring the office of vital statistics to provide information regarding children born in Kansas to the state treasurer; permitting the state treasurer to provide informational materials on government-administered savings accounts for such children and such children's families, was considered on final action.

On roll call, the vote was: Yeas 40; Nays 0; Present and Passing 0; Absent or Not Voting 0.

Yeas: Alley, Argabright, Billinger, Blasi, Blew, Bowers, Bowser, Claeys, Clifford, Corson, Dietrich, Erickson, Fagg, Faust Goudeau, Francisco, Gossage, Haley, Hill, Holscher, Klemp, Kloos, Masterson, Miller, Murphy, Owens, Peck, Petersen, Pettey, Rose, Ryckman, Schmidt, Shallenburger, Shane, Starnes, Sykes, Thomas, Thompson, Titus, Tyson, Warren.

The bill passed.

SB 340, AN ACT concerning education; relating to the Kansas promise scholarship program; prohibiting Kansas promise scholarship awards from being used to fund remedial hours offered as part of corequisite courses; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 74-32,274 and repealing the existing section, was considered on final action.

On roll call, the vote was: Yeas 40; Nays 0; Present and Passing 0; Absent or Not Voting 0.

Yeas: Alley, Argabright, Billinger, Blasi, Blew, Bowers, Bowser, Claeys, Clifford, Corson, Dietrich, Erickson, Fagg, Faust Goudeau, Francisco, Gossage, Haley, Hill, Holscher, Klemp, Kloos, Masterson, Miller, Murphy, Owens, Peck, Petersen, Pettey, Rose, Ryckman, Schmidt, Shallenburger, Shane, Starnes, Sykes, Thomas, Thompson, Titus, Tyson, Warren.

The bill passed, as amended.

SB 381, AN ACT concerning education; relating to curriculum for social studies; requiring instruction to provide students with an understanding of communist and socialist regimes and ideologies; requiring students pass an American civics examination in order to graduate with a high school diploma; amending K.S.A. 72-3217 and repealing the existing section, was considered on final action.

On roll call, the vote was: Yeas 26; Nays 14; Present and Passing 0; Absent or Not Voting 0.

Yeas: Alley, Billinger, Blasi, Blew, Bowers, Bowser, Claeys, Erickson, Gossage, Hill,

Klemp, Kloos, Masterson, Murphy, Owens, Peck, Petersen, Rose, Shallenburger, Shane, Starnes, Thomas, Thompson, Titus, Tyson, Warren.

Nays: Argabright, Clifford, Corson, Dietrich, Fagg, Faust Goudeau, Francisco, Haley, Holscher, Miller, Pettey, Ryckman, Schmidt, Sykes.

The bill passed, as amended.

SB 384, AN ACT concerning education; relating to public innovative districts; extending the application deadline to operate as a public innovative district from December 1 to May 1; deeming applications approved if not approved or denied within a certain number of days; amending K.S.A. 72-4223 and 72-4225 and repealing the existing sections, was considered on final action.

On roll call, the vote was: Yeas 32; Nays 7; Present and Passing 1; Absent or Not Voting 0.

Yeas: Alley, Argabright, Billinger, Blasi, Blew, Bowers, Bowser, Claeys, Clifford, Dietrich, Erickson, Fagg, Faust Goudeau, Gossage, Hill, Klemp, Kloos, Masterson, Murphy, Owens, Peck, Petersen, Rose, Ryckman, Shallenburger, Shane, Starnes, Thomas, Thompson, Titus, Tyson, Warren.

Nays: Corson, Haley, Holscher, Miller, Pettey, Schmidt, Sykes.

Present and Passing: Francisco.

The bill passed, as amended.

SB 406, AN ACT concerning education; relating to workforce development; directing the governor to approve short-term workforce training programs for Pell grant eligibility; requiring the state workforce development board to establish an internal process for such eligibility, was considered on final action.

On roll call, the vote was: Yeas 40; Nays 0; Present and Passing 0; Absent or Not Voting 0.

Yeas: Alley, Argabright, Billinger, Blasi, Blew, Bowers, Bowser, Claeys, Clifford, Corson, Dietrich, Erickson, Fagg, Faust Goudeau, Francisco, Gossage, Haley, Hill, Holscher, Klemp, Kloos, Masterson, Miller, Murphy, Owens, Peck, Petersen, Pettey, Rose, Ryckman, Schmidt, Shallenburger, Shane, Starnes, Sykes, Thomas, Thompson, Titus, Tyson, Warren.

The bill passed.

S Sub HB 2212, AN ACT concerning extraordinary events; authorizing the governor to issue a proclamation declaring the need for enhanced public safety and security for an extraordinary event; providing the governor with certain authority during an extraordinary event declaration, was considered on final action.

On roll call, the vote was: Yeas 38; Nays 2; Present and Passing 0; Absent or Not Voting 0.

Yeas: Alley, Argabright, Billinger, Blasi, Blew, Bowers, Bowser, Claeys, Clifford, Corson, Dietrich, Erickson, Fagg, Faust Goudeau, Francisco, Gossage, Haley, Hill, Holscher, Klemp, Kloos, Masterson, Miller, Murphy, Owens, Peck, Petersen, Pettey, Rose, Ryckman, Schmidt, Shallenburger, Shane, Starnes, Sykes, Thomas, Titus, Warren.

Nays: Thompson, Tyson.

The substitute bill passed.

HB 2635, AN ACT concerning healthcare; enacting the pregnancy center autonomy and rights of expression act; providing statutory protection for private, nonprofit pregnancy centers and medical pregnancy centers to provide life-affirming care, support and material resources; creating a private cause of action for violations of the act;

creating a right of intervention in legal proceedings challenging the act, was considered on final action.

On roll call, the vote was: Yeas 31; Nays 9; Present and Passing 0; Absent or Not Voting 0.

Yeas: Alley, Argabright, Billinger, Blasi, Blew, Bowers, Bowser, Claeys, Clifford, Dietrich, Erickson, Fagg, Gossage, Hill, Klemp, Kloos, Masterson, Murphy, Owens, Peck, Petersen, Rose, Ryckman, Shallenburger, Shane, Starnes, Thomas, Thompson, Titus, Tyson, Warren.

Nays: Corson, Faust Goudeau, Francisco, Haley, Holscher, Miller, Pettey, Schmidt, Sykes.

The bill passed.

EXPLANATION OF VOTE

Many of the people who are asking us to codify protections for pregnancy centers through **HB 2635** are also the ones who have worked to take away the rights of bodily autonomy from others. The bill says "the legislature hereby finds and declares that" before listing seven findings including a statement that pregnancy centers provide comprehensive care, another that they equip women with complete and accurate information regarding pregnancy options, both in contrast to the statement that the centers provide support and resources for women who choose childbirth over abortion. I am a member of the committee that heard the bill; much of the testimony in favor was from directors of pregnancy centers and none from any of their clients. The testimony in opposition questioned the declarations including a client who spoke of her disturbing experience with a pregnancy center, a physician who shared concerns about possible outcomes of medical misinformation, and a Rabbi who noted that Jewish tradition supports the paramount import of medically accurate reproductive health education. With more testimony in opposition than in favor and no discussion in committee of any evidence for the findings, I cannot "find and declare" any of this; I vote "NO".—MARCI FRANCISCO

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Committee on **Education** recommends **HB 2320, HB 2560, HB 2618, HB 2761** be passed.

Committee on **Local Government, Transparency and Ethics** recommends **HB 2099** be amended by substituting with a new bill to be designated as "Senate Substitute for HOUSE BILL NO. 2099," as follows:

"Senate Substitute for HOUSE BILL NO. 2099

By Committee on Local Government, Transparency and Ethics

"AN ACT concerning the disposition of state real property; authorizing the secretary of corrections on behalf of the department of corrections and the state of Kansas to convey certain real property in Leavenworth county, Kansas, to Leavenworth county.";

And the substitute bill be passed.

Committee on **Transportation** recommends **HB 2467**, As Amended by House Committee, be passed.

Committee on **Ways and Means** recommends **SB 513** be amended on page 2, in line 26, by striking "statute book" and inserting "Kansas register"; and the bill be passed as amended.

On motion of Senator Blasi, the Senate adjourned until 8:00 a.m., Friday, March 13, 2026.

CHARLENE BAILEY, CINDY SHEPARD, *Journal Clerks.*

COREY CARNAHAN, *Secretary of the Senate.*

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