

Journal of the House

SEVENTH DAY

HALL OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
TOPEKA, KS, Wednesday, January 21, 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.

Reps. Alcalá, Haskins, Minnix and Winn were excused on verified illness.

Prayer by Chaplain Holmes:

Father, We come before You inviting Your leadership and divine wisdom as we begin the work before us. Indeed, you are a great God, “compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in loving kindness and truth.” Help us serve others with that same compassion, grace, love, and truth.

Your Word proclaims, “If anyone wants to provide leadership, this is a good thing! But there are preconditions. A leader must be above reproach, well-thought of, cool and collected, accessible, and hospitable. They must know what they are talking about, not be over fond of wine, not pushy but gentle, not thin-skinned, not money hungry. They must handle their own affairs well.”

You set the standard high for those called to leadership positions. Help each to be worthy of the trust and faith placed in them. Allow Your wisdom to prevail when we think we have everything figured out. Help us to hear with thoughtful minds and considerate spirits diverse opinions. Keep us, O’God from believing our ideas are always the best.

Our Nation is in turmoil today. We need the peace of Almighty God to prevail. Give our national leaders a heart of compassion, wisdom and understanding.

I pray for our state leaders. Governor Laura Kelly, Senate President Ty Masterson, Speaker of the House Dan Hawkins and all their support staff. I especially lift before You today this Kansas House of Representatives, as well as their families.

Now, may Your peace and presence be recognized in all the proceedings which will take place in this chamber within the next few hours. I ask this in Jesus Name, Amen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rep. Bergkamp.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and concurrent resolution were introduced and read by title:

HB 2482, AN ACT concerning education; relating to the state board of education; removing the requirement that the state board of education use a certain exam provider to deliver state-funded college entrance and career readiness exams; requiring the board to provide for such exams using any provider; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 72-5178 and 72-5179 and repealing the existing sections, by Committee on K-12 Education Budget.

HB 2483, AN ACT concerning energy; enacting the transparency and reform of utility expenditures act; requiring the state corporation commission to prepare and submit a report to the legislature regarding the electric transmission projects recommended for construction by a regional transmission organization; requiring the commission to provide weekly notice of meetings that were held with stakeholders if such meetings pertained to legislative or regulatory matters that may impact electric rates; requiring the construction of certain transmission lines that are directed by a regional transmission organization to be subject to competitive bidding; prohibiting the commission and certain electric public utilities from supporting any integrated transmission plan unless such plan provides benefits to the state; authorizing sales of energy and energy services pursuant to power purchase agreements and energy storage service agreements; exempting such sales from the retail electric suppliers act and public utility regulation; prohibiting municipalities from imposing restrictions on the construction and operation of nuclear energy facilities; prohibiting commissioners and staff of the state corporation commission from being employed by a public utility within one year following the date that such person ceased to hold such position; requiring legislative approval prior to the construction of any high-impact electric transmission line; requiring members appointed to the citizens' utility ratepayer board to be subject to senate confirmation; limiting the membership of the citizens' utility ratepayer board from the same political party to not more than three members; authorizing the consumer counsel of the citizens' utility ratepayer board to represent the interests of residential and small commercial ratepayers before the federal energy regulatory commission and regional transmission organization; prohibiting electric public utilities from changing the utility's transmission delivery charge and requiring any such changes to be made in a general retail rate proceeding; requiring the commission to provide notice to certain legislative committees of matters that may lead to an increase in electric rates pending before a regional transmission organization; amending K.S.A. 66-1,170, 66-1,177, 66-1222, 66-1223 and 74-633 and K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 66-104, 66-1,178 and 66-1237 and repealing the existing sections, by Committee on Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications.

HB 2484, AN ACT concerning postsecondary education; relating to the Kansas promise scholarship program; eliminating the Kansas residency requirement after completing the program; clarifying the work requirements after completing the program; repealing the expiration of the program; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 74-32,276 and repealing the existing section; also repealing K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 74-32,278, by Committee on Education.

HB 2485, AN ACT concerning postsecondary education; relating to scholarships, grants and other student financial aid programs administered by the state board of regents; authorizing the chief executive officer of the board to negotiate and settle repayment obligations arising under such financial aid programs; prohibiting the payment of additional funds to any student who is subject to repayment obligations under such financial aid programs; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 74-32,313 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Education.

HB 2486, AN ACT concerning education; relating to school districts; requiring children to be toilet trained to enroll in and attend kindergarten; providing exceptions thereto; amending K.S.A. 72-3118 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Education.

HB 2487, AN ACT concerning postsecondary education; relating to the Kansas education opportunity scholarship program act; defining teacher and paraprofessional for purposes of eligibility for a scholarship under such act; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 74-3284 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Education.

HB 2488, AN ACT concerning postsecondary education; relating to the university of Kansas school of medicine; requiring such school to use a letter grading system or other tiered grading system to assess student performance, by Committee on Education.

HB 2489, AN ACT concerning school districts; relating to drug abuse education programs; requiring school districts to provide fentanyl abuse education programs; mandating school districts to maintain a supply of naloxone in all schools; authorizing the attorney general to expend moneys from the Kansas fights addiction fund for grants to school districts for such naloxone; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 75-777 and repealing the existing section, by Representatives Proctor, Hoheisel and Sweely.

HB 2490, AN ACT concerning elections; relating to signature verification requirements for advance voting ballot envelopes; amending K.S.A. 25-1121 and repealing the existing section; also repealing K.S.A. 25-1117, 25-1118, 25-1119, 25-1120, 25-1121, 25-1122a, 25-1122b, 25-1122c, 25-1122d, 25-1122f, 25-1123, 25-1125, 25-1126, 25-1128, 25-1129, 25-1130, 25-1131, 25-1134, 25-1135, 25-1136, 25-1137, 25-1138, 25-1139 and K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 25-1122 and 25-1124, by Committee on Elections.

HB 2491, AN ACT concerning state agencies; requiring quarterly reports to the secretary of state of the names and addresses of noncitizens receiving public-funded benefits, by Committee on Elections.

HB 2492, AN ACT concerning municipalities; relating to vacancies in municipal governing bodies; requiring a special election within 60 days of the vacancy if the vacant position has not been filled; amending K.S.A. 12-104a and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Elections.

HB 2493, AN ACT concerning elections; relating to advance voting ballots; requiring a person transmitting or delivering a ballot on behalf of another voter to include such person's driver's license number in the written statement on the ballot envelope; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 25-2437 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Elections.

HB 2494, AN ACT concerning elections; relating to candidate names on ballots; allowing a candidate for a nonpartisan office to have such candidate's political party affiliation added on the ballot with such candidate's name; amending K.S.A. 25-613 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Elections.

HB 2495, AN ACT concerning water; relating to counties; authorizing counties to adopt resolutions to regulate activities on or within navigable rivers; relating to crimes involving property; adding navigable rivers to the crime of criminal trespass; amending K.S.A. 21-5808 and K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 19-101a and repealing the existing sections, by Committee on Local Government.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. **HCR 5021**—
By Committee on Elections

A PROPOSITION to amend article 5 of the constitution of the state of Kansas by adding a new section to require voters to present photographic identification at the time of voting.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Kansas, two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the House of Representatives and two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the Senate concurring therein:

Section 1. The following proposition to amend the constitution of the state of Kansas shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the state for their approval or rejection: Article 5 of the constitution of the state of Kansas is hereby amended by adding a new section to read as follows:

"§ 9. Qualified elector identification. Each qualified elector shall present photographic identification issued by the state of Kansas or the government of the United States at the time of voting in any election. The implementation and administration of this requirement shall be prescribed by law."

Sec. 2. The following statement shall be printed on the ballot with the amendment as a whole:

"Explanatory statement. This amendment would require voters to present photographic identification issued by the state of Kansas or the government of the United States in order to vote in an election in Kansas.

"A vote for this proposition would require voters to present photographic identification issued by the state of Kansas or the government of the United States in order to vote in an election in Kansas."

"A vote against this proposition would make no change to the constitution of the state of Kansas, and the voter identification requirement would remain in state law only."

Sec. 3. This resolution, if approved by two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the House of Representatives and two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the Senate, shall be entered on the journals, together with the yeas and nays. The secretary of state shall cause this resolution to be published as provided by law and shall cause the proposed amendment to be submitted to the electors of the state at a special election, which is hereby called on August 4, 2026, pursuant to section 1 of article 14 of the constitution of the state of Kansas, to be held in conjunction with the primary election held on such date.

REFERENCE OF BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills were referred to committees as indicated:

Agriculture and Natural Resources: **HB 2476**.
Commerce, Labor and Economic Development: **HB 2481**.
Federal and State Affairs: **HB 2473**.
Health and Human Services: **HB 2478**.
Higher Education Budget: **HB 2472**.
Judiciary: **HB 2479**, **HB 2480**.
Taxation: **HB 2474**, **HB 2475**.
Transportation: **HB 2471**.
Water: **HB 2477**.

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

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

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

Recommended that **SCR 1604** be adopted.

HB 2065 be passed.

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 and concurrent resolution were introduced and read by title:

HB 2496, AN ACT concerning property taxation; relating to public utilities; requiring the director of property valuation to conduct a review or audit of the appraisal and apportionment of the valuation of the property of any public utility when the total appraised value of property of such public utility in this state decreases more than 5% and a governmental body requests such review or audit; amending K.S.A. 79-5a02 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Taxation.

HB 2497, AN ACT concerning financial institutions; relating to loans; prohibiting the assessment of a prepayment penalty against any party more than six months after the execution of a note evidencing a home loan made primarily for personal, family or household purposes secured by a real estate mortgage; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 16-207 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Financial Institutions and Pensions.

HB 2498, AN ACT concerning crimes, punishment and criminal procedure; relating to driving under the influence; classifying crimes related to driving under the influence and driving a commercial vehicle under the influence as person crimes; amending K.S.A. 8-2,144 and K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 8-1567 and repealing the existing sections, by Committee on Judiciary.

HB 2499, AN ACT concerning crimes, punishment and criminal procedure; relating to driving under the influence; directing courts to approve victim impact panel programs for driving under the influence offenses; requiring persons convicted of or given diversion agreements for driving under the influence offenses to attend victim impact panels; amending K.S.A. 8-2,144, 12-4416 and 22-2909 and K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 8-1567 and repealing the existing sections, by Committee on Judiciary.

HB 2500, AN ACT concerning retirement and pensions; relating to the Kansas public employees retirement system and systems thereunder; creating the Kansas public employees retirement system cost-of-living adjustment commission; prescribing the powers and duties of the commission; establishing procedures of the legislature for the review and consideration of cost-of-living adjustments by the commission, by Committee on Financial Institutions and Pensions.

HB 2501, AN ACT concerning firearms; relating to civil liability; providing for immunity from civil liability to federal firearms licensees for returning a firearm to the firearm owner at the termination of a firearm hold agreement, by Committee on Federal and State Affairs.

HB 2502, AN ACT concerning wildlife; requiring the Kansas department of wildlife and parks to offer discounted resident senior combination hunting and fishing passes to residents of this state who are 65 years of age or older; increasing the maximum age to qualify for Kansas kids lifetime combination hunting and fishing licenses and removing the expiration date for such licenses; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 32-9,101 and repealing the existing section; reviving and amending K.S.A. 32-9,100 and repealing the revived section; also repealing K.S.A. 32-9,100, as amended by section 64 of chapter 7 of the 2023 Session Laws of Kansas, by Committee on Federal and State Affairs.

HB 2503, AN ACT concerning elections; repealing the mail ballot election act; amending K.S.A. 2-610, 2-611, 10-1116c, 12-195, 12-195b, 12-352, 12-362, 12-521, 12-12,102, 12-17,103, 12-17,151, 12-6003, 12-6005, 13-13a38, 25-2709, 42-706, 72-9939, 82a-626, 82a-649, 82a-650 and 82a-2205 and K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 25-1122, 25-2812, 25-3002 and 79-2925c and repealing the existing sections; also repealing K.S.A. 25-431, 25-433a, 25-434, 25-435, 25-436, 25-437, 25-438, 25-439, 25-440 and 82a-648 and K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 25-432 and 25-433, by Representatives Reavis, Bryce, Chauncey, Ellis, Fairchild, Goddard, Howell, James, Pickert, Poetter, Proctor, Rhiley, Roeser, Roth, Schwertfeger, Steele, Stiens, Waggoner, Willcott and Williams, K..

HB 2504, AN ACT concerning housing; relating to landlords and tenants; prohibiting cities and counties from restricting a landlord's discretion to not rent residential housing or commercial rental property to a prospective tenant on grounds that the prospective tenant's income source includes housing assistance program funds or consideration of the tenant's credit reports or other income-qualifying information or eviction, criminal or property damage history; permitting a landlord to set the amount of a security deposit or refuse to extend a right of first refusal; permitting cities or counties to prohibit discrimination by a landlord against a tenant or prospective tenant solely on the basis that the tenant or prospective tenant receives veterans benefits, by Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development.

HB 2505, AN ACT concerning public records; providing an exception for Kansas department of wildlife and parks records regarding the location of any species that is threatened, endangered or in need of conservation from the disclosure requirements of the Kansas open records act; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 45-221 and repealing the existing section, by Representative W. Carpenter.

HB 2506, AN ACT concerning health and healthcare; relating to the behavioral sciences; relating to the licensure and regulation of addiction counselors; establishing an addiction counselor apprentice license and setting fees for such license; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 65-6610 and 65-6618 and repealing the existing sections, by Committee on Health and Human Services.

HB 2507, AN ACT concerning wildlife and parks; relating to hunting; removing the requirement for migratory waterfowl stamps to be validated by a signature across the face of each such stamp; increasing the fees for such stamps; amending K.S.A. 32-939 and K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 32-988 and repealing the existing sections, by Representative W. Carpenter.

HB 2508, AN ACT concerning children and minors; relating to health and healthcare; prohibiting healthcare providers from prescribing medication, administering diagnostic tests or conducting ongoing behavioral health treatments to minors except in certain circumstances; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 72-6287 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Health and Human Services.

HB 2509, AN ACT concerning health and healthcare; relating to the healthcare provider insurance availability act; adding advanced practice registered nurse to the definition of healthcare provider; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 40-3401 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Health and Human Services.

HB 2510, AN ACT concerning school districts; relating to boards of education; requiring each board of education to allocate the amount of membership association dues to individual board members; prohibiting payment of such dues if a board member elects not to join such membership association; authorizing payment of such dues if a board member elects to join a membership organization; amending K.S.A. 72-1145 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on K-12 Education Budget.

HB 2511, AN ACT concerning wildlife and parks; relating to the disposition of certain moneys received from agricultural production on state-owned property; permitting the use of such moneys received to be used for the management of all state-owned properties; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 32-809 and repealing the existing section, by Representative W. Carpenter.

HB 2512, AN ACT concerning campaign finance; requiring treasurers for candidates and persons who promote or oppose the adoption of constitutional amendments to report lists of small donors to the public disclosure commission; providing that such lists shall not be part of any report required to be made public; amending K.S.A. 25-4148 and K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 25-4180 and repealing the existing sections, by Committee on Elections.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. **HCR 5022**—
By Representative Sutton

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION making application to the Congress of the United States for a limited national convention for the exclusive purpose of proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States establishing term limits for members of Congress.

WHEREAS, The framers of the Constitution of the United States of America intended that the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate should be "dependent on the people alone" (James Madison, Federalist 52); and

WHEREAS, Throughout American history, this dependency has evolved from a dependency on the American people alone to a dependency on powerful special interests, through spending by third-party groups, campaigns or out-of-state donors, which have created a fundamental imbalance in our representative democracy and eroded the people's trust in government; and

WHEREAS, Americans across the political spectrum agree that elections in the United States of America should be free from the disproportional influence of special interests and fair enough that any citizen can be elected into office; and

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the State of Kansas states that "all political power is inherent in the people, and all free governments are founded on their authority, and are instituted for their equal protection and benefit" (Bill of Rights, Section 2); and

WHEREAS, Article V of the Constitution of the United States requires the Congress of the United States to call a convention for proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States upon the application of two-thirds of the legislatures of the several states; and

WHEREAS, The Kansas Legislature perceives the need for a convention in order to ensure balance and integrity in our elections by proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States that will establish term limits for members of Congress to prevent the accumulation of inordinate power in members with longevity who are able to amass high amounts of funds for reelection; and

WHEREAS, A national convention would give the American people an opportunity to come together as a nation, by discussing solutions on how to ensure the integrity of our elections and renew the American people's trust in government; and

WHEREAS, Article V of the Constitution of the United States clearly states that any amendment, whether proposed by the Congress of the United States or by a convention, shall be ratified by 75% of the states, presently 38 states, ensuring that only the most reasonable proposals with widespread support shall become part of the Constitution of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Notwithstanding any federal or Kansas law to the contrary, the State of Kansas desires its delegates to such a national convention to be composed equally of individuals currently elected to state and local offices or selected by election in each congressional district in Kansas, except that all individuals elected or appointed to federal office, now or in the past, shall be prohibited from serving as Kansas delegates. The State of Kansas intends to retain the ability to enforce the responsibility and conduct of its delegation within the limits herein expressed: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Kansas, two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the House of Representatives and two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the Senate concurring therein: That the people of the State of Kansas, speaking through its legislature and pursuant to Article V of the Constitution of the United States, hereby apply to the Congress of the United States to call a convention for the exclusive purpose of proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to set a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of State shall send enrolled copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Vice President of the United States in the Vice President's capacity as presiding officer of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, each Senator and Representative from Kansas in the Congress of the United States, with the respectful request that the full and complete text of this resolution be printed in the Congressional Record, the presiding officers of each legislative body of each of the several states, requesting the cooperation of the states in issuing an application compelling the Congress of the United States to call a convention for proposing amendments pursuant to Article V of the Constitution of the United States.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT CHANGES

Speaker Hawkins announced the appointment of Rep. Ballard to replace Rep. Winn on Committee on Education on January 21, 2026.

Also, the appointment of Rep. Xu to replace Rep. Alcalá on Committee on Appropriations on January 22, 2026.

Also, the appointment of Rep. Neighbor to replace Rep. Winn on Committee on Education on, January 22, 2026.

On motion of Rep. Croft, the House adjourned until 11:00 a.m., Thursday, January 22, 2026.

JENNY HAUGH, JULIA WERNER, *Journal Clerks.*

SUSAN W. KANNARR, *Chief Clerk.*

