

# Journal of the House

## THIRTEENTH DAY

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HALL OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
TOPEKA, KS, Thursday, January 29, 2026, 11:00 a.m.

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

The roll was called with 117 members present.

Reps. Neighbor and Poetter Parshall were excused on verified illness.

Reps. Francis and A. Smith were excused on legislative business.

Reps. Awerkamp, Helgerson, Howe and Winn were excused on excused absence by the Speaker.

Prayer by Chaplain Holmes:

Father, We need Your insight, wisdom, and direction as we stand for those who are trusting us to make thoughtful and balanced decisions. Help us be humble when we make good decisions, and bold in defense when righteousness is at stake.

Your word proclaims, “Give instruction to a wise person, and they will be wiser still. Instruct a righteous person and they will increase their learning.” Help us discern what is right and morally balanced. Reveal Your divine direction for this group of decision makers.

I pray for our Nation, and our national leaders. Open ears to hear truth and not just claims born out of frustration, hurt, and resentment. Remind us, If You would O’God, we are “One Nation Under God.”

As debate is introduced on a myriad of bills, help us to see the right path to follow. When we have doubts, or wonder what direction we should support, give us discerning minds. In Jesus Name. Amen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rep. Boatman.

### CELEBRATION OF KANSAS DAY

In celebration of the 165<sup>th</sup> birthday of the State of Kansas, Reps. Ballard and Bergquist led the members of the House in singing “Home on the Range.”

**INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS**

The following bills were introduced and read by title:

**HB 2590**, AN ACT concerning trusts; enacting the Kansas community property trust act; authorizing the use of community property trusts during the marriage of settlor spouses; relating to the Kansas uniform trust code; allowing trustees to reimburse settlors of grantor trusts; authorizing the use of designated representatives for trusts; permitting the terms of a governing instrument to expand, restrict or eliminate certain general rules applicable to fiduciaries, trusts and trust administration; amending K.S.A. 58a-505, 58a-813 and 58a-816 and repealing the existing sections, by Committee on Financial Institutions and Pensions.

**HB 2591**, AN ACT concerning financial institutions; authorizing financial institutions to report suspected financial exploitation of an adult account holder to a designated agency, notify any adult designated as a trusted contact by such account holder of suspected financial exploitation and place a temporary hold on certain transactions or disbursements; limiting liability in any civil or criminal action for taking such actions or choosing not to take such actions, by Committee on Financial Institutions and Pensions.

**HB 2592**, AN ACT creating the Kansas task force on artificial intelligence and emerging technologies; providing membership and duties of such task force, by Committee on Legislative Modernization.

**HB 2593**, AN ACT concerning contingent fee contracts for legal services; relating to contracts entered into for legal services by a political subdivision; requiring an open meeting before a political subdivision may approve such a contract; requiring the attorney general to approve such contract before such contract becomes effective, by Committee on Judiciary.

**HB 2594**, AN ACT concerning crimes, punishment and criminal procedure; relating to blackmail; modifying the elements related to threatened dissemination of any videotape, photograph, film or image of another identifiable person who is nude or engaged in sexual activity by removing the connection to breach of privacy and describing the content of the videotape, photograph, film or image; amending K.S.A. 21-5428 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Judiciary.

**REFERENCE OF BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS**

The following bills and concurrent resolution were referred to committees as indicated:

Agriculture and Natural Resources: **HB 2581, HB 2582.**

Child Welfare and Foster Care: **HB 2589.**

Commerce, Labor and Economic Development: **HB 2580, HB 2588.**

Education: **HB 2576.**

Elections: **HB 2569.**

Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications: **HB 2586.**

Federal and State Affairs: **HB 2568, HB 2573, HB 2577.**

Health and Human Services: **HB 2587.**

Legislative Modernization: **HB 2574, HR 6023.**

Local Government: **HB 2571.**

Taxation: **HB 2570, HB 2572.**

Transportation: **HB 2575, HB 2578, HB 2579, HB 2583, HB 2584, HB 2585.**

**MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE**

Announcing adoption of **SCR 1615**.

The Senate concurs in House amendments to **Sub SB 244**.

**INTRODUCTION OF SENATE BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS**

The following concurrent resolution was introduced and read by title:

**SCR 1615**, A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION honoring the life and legacy of Charlie Kirk and recognizing October 14, 2026, and every October 14 thereafter, as Charlie Kirk Free Speech Day, was thereupon introduced and read by title.

**CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

MR. SPEAKER and MR. PRESIDENT: Your committee on conference on Senate amendments to **HB 2158** submits the following report:

Your committee on conference agrees to disagree and recommends that a new conference committee be appointed;

And your committee on conference recommends the adoption of this report.

VIRGIL PECK

LARRY ALLEY

*Conferees on part of Senate*

SEAN TARWATER

ADAM TURK

*Conferees on part of House*

On motion of Rep. Tarwater the conference committee report on **HB 2158** to agree to disagree, was adopted.

Speaker Hawkins thereupon appointed Reps. Tarwater, Ward and Sawyer Clayton as second conferees on the part of the House.

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

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

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

Recommended that **HB 2446** be passed.

Committee report to **HB 2476** be adopted;

Also, on motion of Rep. Featherston to refer **HB 2476** to Committee on Judiciary, the motion did not prevail;

and the bill be passed as amended.

**INTRODUCTION OF ORIGINAL MOTIONS AND HOUSE RESOLUTIONS**

On emergency motion of Rep. Croft pursuant to House Rule 2311, **HB 2446** and **HB 2476** were advanced to Final Action on Bills and Concurrent Resolutions.

**FINAL ACTION ON BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS**

**HB 2446**, AN ACT concerning elections; relating to the crime of corrupt political advertising; deleting the requirement that treasurers be listed in political advertising attributions; amending K.S.A. 25-2407 and 25-4156 and repealing the existing sections, was considered on final action.

On roll call, the vote was: Yeas 115; Nays 2; Present but not voting: 0; Absent or not voting: 8.

Yeas: Alcalá, Amyx, Anderson, Ballard, Barrett, Bergkamp, Bergquist, Blex, Bloom, Boatman, Bohi, Borjon, Brantley, Paige, Brunk, Bryce, Buehler, Butler, Caiharr, Carlin, Carmichael, B. Carpenter, W. Carpenter, Carr, Chauncey, Collins, Corbet, Croft, Curtis, Delperdang, Droge, Ellis, Esau, Essex, Estes, Fairchild, Featherston, Gardner, Goddard, Goetz, Haskins, Hawkins, Helwig, Hoffman, Hoheisel, Howell, Howerton, Hoyer, Huebert, Humphries, James, T. Johnson, Kessler, King, Lewis, Long, Martinez, McDonald, McNorton, Melton, Meyer, Minnix, Moser, Mosley, Neelly, Ohaebosim, Oropeza, Osman, Pickert, Pishny, Poskin, Proctor, Rahjes, Reavis, Resman, Rhiley, Roeser, Roth, Ruiz, L., Ruiz, S., Sanders, Sappington, Sawyer, Schlingensiepen, Schmoë, Schreiber, Schwertfeger, Seiwert, Simmons, Smith, C., Steele, Stiens, Stogsdill, Sutton, Sweely, Tarwater, Turk, Turner, VanHouden, Vaughn, Waggoner, Ward, Wasinger, Waymaster, Weigel, White, Wickle, Wilborn, Willcott, Williams, K., Williams, L., Wilson, Wolf, Woodard, Xu.

Nays: Ousley, Clayton.

Present but not voting: None.

Absent or not voting: Awerkamp, Francis, Helgerson, Howe, Neighbor, Poetter, Smith, A., Winn.

The bill passed.

**HB 2476**, AN ACT concerning agriculture; relating to pesticides; permitting federal pesticide warning or labeling requirements to satisfy any state pesticide warning or labeling requirements, was considered on final action.

On roll call, the vote was: Yeas 81; Nays 36; Present but not voting: 0; Absent or not voting: 8.

Yeas: Anderson, Barrett, Bergkamp, Bergquist, Blex, Bloom, Bohi, Borjon, Brantley, Brunk, Bryce, Buehler, Butler, Caiharr, B. Carpenter, W. Carpenter, Chauncey, Collins, Corbet, Croft, Delperdang, Droge, Ellis, Esau, Essex, Estes, Fairchild, Gardner, Goddard, Goetz, Hawkins, Helwig, Hoffman, Hoheisel, Howell, Howerton, Huebert, Humphries, James, T. Johnson, Kessler, King, Lewis, Long, McNorton, Minnix, Moser, Neelly, Pickert, Pishny, Proctor, Rahjes, Reavis, Resman, Rhiley, Roeser, Roth, Sanders, Schmoë, Schreiber, Schwertfeger, Seiwert, Smith, C., Steele, Stiens, Sutton, Sweely, Tarwater, Turk, Turner, VanHouden, Waggoner, Ward, Waymaster, White, Wilborn, Willcott, Williams, K., Williams, L., Wilson, Wolf.

Nays: Alcalá, Amyx, Ballard, Boatman, Paige, Carlin, Carmichael, Carr, Curtis, Featherston, Haskins, Hoyer, Martinez, McDonald, Melton, Meyer, Mosley, Ohaebosim, Oropeza, Osman, Ousley, Poskin, Ruiz, L., Ruiz, S., Sappington, Sawyer, Clayton, Schlingensiepen, Simmons, Stogsdill, Vaughn, Wasinger, Weigel, Wickle, Woodard, Xu.

Present but not voting: None.

Absent or not voting: Awerkamp, Francis, Helgerson, Howe, Neighbor, Poetter, Smith, A., Winn.

The bill passed, as amended.

## EXPLANATION OF VOTE

Mr. Speaker: Today, I stand up for my constituents by voting NO on HB 2476. HB 2476 potentially removes a layer of protection for Kansans, and I will not be party to removing that protection. There is no reason to push this bill though due to the Supreme Court ruling we expect this summer. Whether the motives behind this bill are sinister or to promote streamlining, I choose to err on the side of caution on behalf of my constituents. – Linda Featherston, Tobias Schlingensiepen, Nikki McDonald

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

Committee on **Elections** recommends **HB 2438** be amended as recommended by the House Committee on Elections as reported in the Journal of the House on January 23, 2026, and the bill as printed As Amended by House Committee, be further amended on page 2, in line 17, by striking all after "section"; in line 18, by striking all before the period and inserting "for any person or group to operate a voter registration website that is not in compliance with this section"; in line 23, after "after" by inserting "publication in the Kansas register of the rules and regulations adopted by the secretary of state to implement this section and"; and the bill be passed as further amended.

Committee on **Water** recommends **HB 2462** be passed.

Committee on **Water** recommends **HB 2424** be amended on page 3, in line 42, by striking "a biennial" and inserting "an annual";

On page 4, in line 1, after the period by inserting "Such license fees shall be in an amount of not to exceed \$100."; in line 7, by striking "a biennial" and inserting "an annual"; in line 9, after the period by inserting "Such license fees shall be in an amount of not to exceed \$100.";

On page 5, in line 10, by striking "2024" and inserting "2025";

On page 6, in line 9, after "program" by inserting "management";

On page 1, in the title, in line 16, after "program" by inserting "management"; 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 2595**, AN ACT concerning the practice of law in rural Kansas; providing financial assistance to law students who practice law in rural areas of the state; establishing the attorney training program for rural Kansas fund; transferring moneys to such fund, by Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources.

**HB 2596**, AN ACT concerning the secretary of corrections; relating to the prison-made goods act of Kansas; permitting certain contracts for the production of manufactured or modular homes; amending K.S.A. 75-5275a and repealing the existing section, by Representative Sweely.

**HB 2597**, AN ACT concerning employment; establishing a right to paid sick leave for Kansas employees and setting forth minimum requirements and rules for the provision of such paid sick leave, by Representatives Osman, Amyx, Ballard, Boatman,

Curtis, Martinez, Melton, Neighbor, Ohaebosim, Oropeza, Ruiz, S., Clayton, Stogsdill, Weigel and Woodard.

**HB 2598**, AN ACT concerning labor and employment; enacting the Kansas paid family leave act; relating to paid family leave for covered individuals; requiring notice by employers; establishing the family and medical leave insurance fund, by Representatives Osman, Amyx, Ballard, Boatman, Paige, Carlin, Curtis, Hoye, Martinez, Melton, Ohaebosim, Oropeza, Clayton, Stogsdill, Vaughn, Woodard and Xu.

**HB 2599**, AN ACT concerning economic development; enacting the Kansas lemonade stand law; exempting minor-owned businesses from paying sales tax on the first \$10,000 of sales from tangible personal property sold each calendar year and from local taxes, licenses, permits and other government permissions, by Representatives Bohi, Awerkamp, Barrett, Borjon, Brunk, Buehler, B. Carpenter, Chauncey, Esau, Essex, Francis, Goetz, Helwig, Hoheisel, Howell, James, T. Johnson, Kessler, King, Lewis, Long, Minnix, Moser, Neely, Pickert, Poetter, Resman, Roeser, Sappington, Schmoie, Schwertfeger, Steele, Stiens, Sutton, Tarwater, Turk, VanHouden, Ward, Wasinger, White, Wilborn, Willcott, Williams, L. and Wilson.

**HB 2600**, AN ACT concerning health and healthcare; relating to medical assistance; establishing the Affordable Healthcare for Kansans program; expanding income limits for eligibility to 138% of the federal poverty level, by Representatives Wikle, Alcala, Amyx, Ballard, Boatman, Carlin, Carmichael, Carr, Curtis, Featherston, Haskins, Helgerson, Hoye, Martinez, McDonald, Melton, Meyer, Mosley, Neighbor, Ohaebosim, Oropeza, Osman, Poskin, Ruiz, L., Ruiz, S., Sawyer, Clayton, Schlingensiepen, Stogsdill, Weigel, Winn, Woodard and Xu.

**HB 2601**, AN ACT concerning children and minors; relating to child abuse or neglect; establishing a child abuse and neglect registry to be maintained by the secretary for children and families; requiring administrative hearings and an opportunity for appeal before placing an individual on the registry; allowing for expungement from the registry; limiting use of information on the registry; permitting the secretary to maintain other registries or records to meet federal requirements; amending K.S.A. 59-2132 and K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 38-2272a, 65-516 and 75-7719 and repealing the existing sections, by Committee on Child Welfare and Foster Care.

**HB 2602**, AN ACT concerning labor and employment; relating to employment benefits; establishing requirements for a portable benefit plan for an independent contractor; determining type and amount of contributions to a portable benefit plan; providing for a subtraction modification for contributions to a portable benefit plan for Kansas income tax purposes; amending K.S.A. 2025 Supp. 79-32,117 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Insurance.

**HB 2603**, AN ACT prohibiting regulation of battery-charged security fences by municipalities, by Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development.

#### COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT CHANGE

Speaker Hawkins announced the appointment of Rep. Ballard to replace Rep. Helgerson on Committee on Transportation on January 29, 2026.

**REPORT ON ENGROSSED BILLS**

**HB 2347** reported correctly re-engrossed January 29, 2026.

On motion of Rep. Croft the House adjourned pro forma until 9:00 a.m. on Friday, January 30, 2026.

JENNY HAUGH, JULIA WERNER, *Journal Clerks.*

SUSAN W. KANNARR, *Chief Clerk.*

