

Journal of the House

THIRTY-NINTH DAY

HALL OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
TOPEKA, KS, Tuesday, March 5, 2024, 11:00 a.m.

The House met pursuant to adjournment with Speaker pro tem Carpenter in the chair.

The roll was called with 121 members present.

Reps. Blew, Donohoe and Houser were excused on verified illness.

Rep. Butler was excused on excused absence by the Speaker.

Prayer by Chaplain Holmes:

Dear Father. We thank You for the opportunity to start our legislative day with You, the One who not only created us but lifted us to this daunting task of working for our State. Might we be worthy of Your blessings, as well as the confidence of those who said yes to our serving.

We have some busy days and full agendas facing us in the coming days. The necessity of making good decisions for our State is paramount and can, at times, become frustrating. Would You be the One to guide those decisions, as well as our hearts and minds as we work together for the common good of all?

You have taught us from the book of Proverbs, “Two things I asked of Thee. Do not refuse me before I die; keep deception and lies far from me. Give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with the food that is my portion.”

O’God, I pray those words might guide all discussion which occurs in this chamber today. Remind us we are colleagues, not competitors, honoring divergent opinions as an opportunity to see things and situations clearly. I pray Your full blessing on these your servants as they strive to make our State a place of beauty and attraction.

Bless our families. I pray each will be proud of how their loved ones comport themselves in every situation which faces them today.
In Jesus Name I pray

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rep. Collins.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

There being no objection, the following remarks of Rep. Haskins are spread upon the Journal:

Colleagues, if you, like myself, have a love for theatre in our schools, I invite you to join us as I recognize the Kansas Thespians, a chapter of the Educational Theatre Association, and the International Theatre Society as we celebrate *Theatre in Our Schools Day* at the Capitol.

The Kansas Thespians have a rich history, dating back to 1933 when they joined The International Thespian Society. As the oldest troupe in the western half of the USA, they've been dedicated to shaping lives through theatre education. With 98 active Thespian and Junior Thespian troupes and over 2,900 school members, their impact on our community is profound.

In the gallery is a large representation of the active high school or junior high Thespian members. I'm joined on the floor today by:

- Brenna Rutschmann, Topeka West High School
- Hannah Allen, Topeka West High School
- Emma Culbertson, Topeka High School
- Ayden Smith, Topeka High School
- Roux Harper, Olathe West High School
- Emma Dugan, Maize High School
- Ainslee Magee, Olathe North High School
- Emily Streeter, Salina South High School
- Hayley Loya, Garden City High School
- Ms. Katie Murphy – Assistant Director of Theatre and Troupe Director at Topeka West High School – Troupe

In Kansas alone, over 20,000 students participate in theatre each year. These young talents, supported by passionate teachers and families, bring to life an average of five productions per school annually. That's more than just performances; it's a testament to the dedication and creativity of our youth.

Consider the numbers: over a quarter million Kansans attend these school performances each year, contributing to a box office impact estimated at \$1.3 million. But theatre is more than just numbers. It's an experience that transcends our daily lives, transporting us to worlds of imagination and exploration.

It's a catalyst for strengthening society and teaching life lessons. Students who participate in theatre have higher levels of attendance, literacy, GPA, oral communication skills, time budgeting skills, and a litany of numerous other applicable and technical skills.

Former First Lady Michelle Obama once said, "Arts education isn't something we add on after we've achieved other priorities like raising test scores and getting kids into college. It's actually critical for achieving those priorities in the first place." This sentiment rings true as we witness the countless benefits of theatre education.

While demand grows for more graduates with industry-recognized credentials, and as Kansas universities sacrifice majors in the performance arts over more profitable credentials, let's not forget the importance of nurturing creativity, empathy, and human connection. Let's remember that our state was built on the resilience and ingenuity of

hard-working individuals who faced adversity with courage and creativity. Theatre in our schools embodies Ad Astra Per Aspera, to the stars through hardship.

Therefore, on this *Theatre in Our Schools Day*, I ask that my House colleagues join me in welcoming the Kansas Thespians, and all the teachers, students, and families they represent.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Objection was made to **SB 430** appearing on the Consent Calendar; the bill was placed on the Calendar under the heading General Orders.

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

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

On motion of Rep. Neelly, Committee of the Whole report, as follows, was adopted:
Recommended that **SB 195** be passed.

Committee report to **SB 307** be adopted; and the bill be passed as amended.

Committee report to **HB 2648** be adopted; and the bill be passed as amended.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Committee on **Insurance** recommends **SB 338** be amended on page 3, in line 39, by striking "statute book" and inserting "Kansas register"; and the bill be passed as amended.

Committee on **Insurance** recommends **SB 339** be amended on page 2, in line 31, by striking "statute book" and inserting "Kansas register"; and the bill be passed as amended.

Committee on **Insurance** recommends **SB 340** be amended on page 2, in line 33, by striking "statute book" and inserting "Kansas register"; and the bill be passed as amended.

Committee on **Insurance** recommends **SB 356** be amended on page 1, in line 14, by striking the second "a" and inserting ", an average and";

On page 2, in line 5, after "all" by inserting "average and"; in line 6, by striking "a" and inserting "an average and";

On page 3, following line 21, by inserting:

"(e) As used in this section, "average and reasonable" relates to the amounts or fees that are comparable to fees assessed by other persons who have rendered similar services in the area where the examination occurred.";

Also on page 3, in line 24, by striking "statute book" and inserting "Kansas register"; and the bill be passed as amended.

Committee on **Insurance** recommends **SB 398** be amended on page 52, in line 42, by striking "statute book" and inserting "Kansas register"; and the bill be passed as amended.

Committee on **Judiciary** recommends **HB 2781** be amended as recommended by the House Committee on Judiciary as reported in the Journal of the House on February 20, 2024, and the bill, as printed as amended by House Committee, be further amended on

page 2, in line 20, before "In" by inserting "The claim has been filed with the division within five years after the injury or death upon which the claim is based.

(B)";

On page 3, following line 1, by inserting:

"(3) If more than one of the time limitations described in subsection (b)(1) or (b)(2) apply to a victim, the longest time limitation to file a claim shall apply to the victim.";

And by redesignating subsections, paragraphs, subparagraphs and clauses accordingly; and the bill be passed as amended.

Committee on **Transportation** recommends **HB 2799** 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 bill was introduced and read by title:

HB 2818, AN ACT concerning the legislature; relating to legislation pertaining to occupational regulation; providing for a review process and evaluation criteria for the legislature when considering bills that propose new or additional occupational regulation; requiring regulatory entities at the direction of the joint committee on administrative rules and regulations to provide a report to the legislature to inform the legislature's consideration of such proposals; authorizing the joint committee to contract for such a report when necessary; amending K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 77-436 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Federal and State Affairs.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT CHANGES

Speaker pro tem Carpenter announced the appointment of Rep. Lewis to replace Rep. Maughan as Vice Chairman on Committee on Judiciary. This appointment takes effect immediately and is permanent.

Also, the appointment of Rep. Concannon to replace Rep. Blew member on Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development March 5, 2024.

Also, the appointment of Rep. Osman to replace Rep. Sawyer Clayton on Committee on Federal and State Affairs on March 7, 2024.

On motion of Rep. Croft, the House adjourned until 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, March 6, 2024.

JENNY HAUGH, JULIA WERNER, *Journal Clerks.*

SUSAN W. KANNARR, *Chief Clerk.*

