



# KANSAS STATE FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Interested Parties

**From:** John J. Federico, JD  
Stephen P. Duerst, JD

**Date:** January 28, 2022

**Re:** Weekly Update - Week of January 24, 2022

Please see our Weekly Update on Kansas Legislative activities:

### **A SPECIAL NOTE ON FINDING BILL LANGUAGE & BILL TRACKERS**

If you need to find specific language of a bill, type the number in the box under “Bill number:” on the right-hand side of [this](#) webpage. Once you find the bill listed, click that specific bill. You will find the PDF logo under the “Documents” label - click the logo...this will lead you to the text of the bill.

If there are bills that you would like *removed* from or *added* to your bill tracker, please contact Stephen Duerst ([Stephen@FedericoDuerst.com](mailto:Stephen@FedericoDuerst.com)).

As always, our office is more than happy to send you specific language as well.

### **SESSION ACTIVITY PICKS UP – PLEASE CHECK THE WEEKLY SCHEDULE & YOUR UPDATED BILL TRACKER**

As we enter the fourth week of the Legislative Session, there have been a flurry of bills that will be heard and worked in the coming weeks. ***We are asking all clients to please check the WEEKLY SCHEDULE (below) as well as your Bill Tracker to help stay informed on what is happening on Legislation of interest in Topeka.*** Official state calendars are posted daily and can be found [here](#).

### **ECONOMIC INCENTIVE BILL PASSES FIRST MAJOR TEST IN SENATE**

The [Kansas Senate](#) advanced a [measure](#) that would provide massive economic incentives for a yet-to-be announced company and project that has been the subject of massive speculation for weeks. The bill is being pushed hard by the Governor’s office, and by some members of House and Senate leadership, who are trying to win a massive manufacturing project that is expected to bring in \$4 billion in investment to the state. It is also supposed to generate an annual investment of \$2.5 billion in economic activity and create 8,000 jobs, making it one of the biggest deals in Kansas history.

An [amendment](#) made in committee, proposed by Senate Commerce Chairwoman [Renee Erickson](#) (R-Wichita), would do the following:

- Remove the refundable element of the Investment Tax Credit.

- Add a 0.5 percent corporate tax reduction for the taxable year following the receipt of any benefits by a qualified firm or supplier under the Act.
- Make various technical changes to the bill.

Erickson further [amended](#) the bill on the Senate Floor to:

- Establish a sunset of March 31, 2023, on and after which no new agreements with a qualified firm or qualified supplier may be entered into by the Secretary of Commerce.
- Define term “foreign trade zone” and amend the definition of “qualified supplier”.
- Amend requirements under which a qualified firm must repay benefits.
- Clarify qualified firms and suppliers are disqualified from receiving benefits under any other economic development program administered by the Department of Commerce.
- Clarify that qualified suppliers must be certified by the Secretary of Commerce prior to receiving the sales tax exemption.

After a shorter than expected debate, the Senate passed the bill [32-7](#). The [House Commerce Committee](#) is scheduled to hear the bill next Monday. Proponents are hoping to advance the bill and send to the Governor’s desk as soon as possible to remain in the site selection competition.

**LEGISLATURE PASSES CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING MAPS**

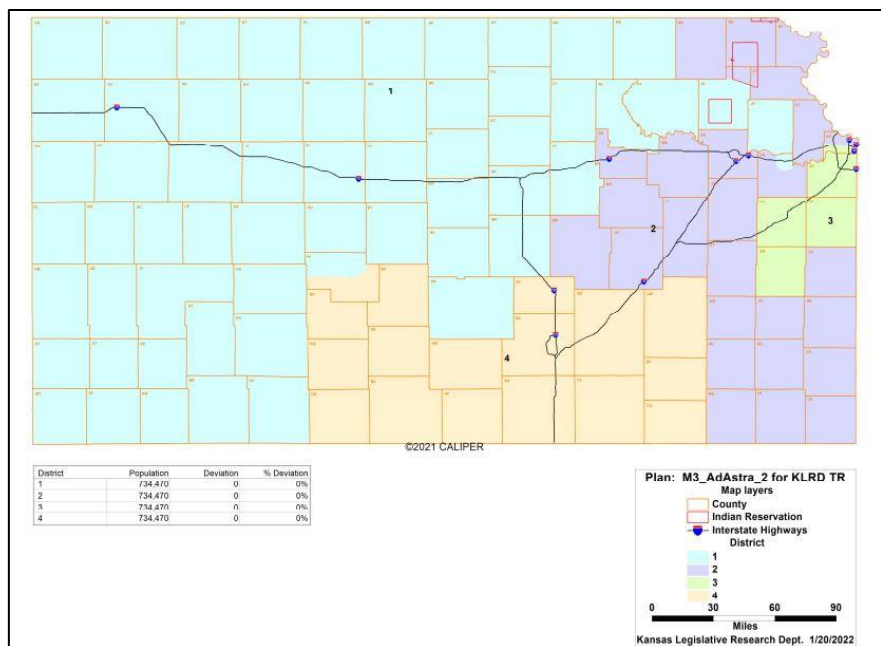
After a mere three weeks into the 2022 Legislative Session, both the House and Senate have passed a Congressional Redistricting map. After the Senate passed the map last week, the full House took up the issue on Tuesday.

As anticipated, the key issue in the House was, like the Senate, how to redraw the current lines of the growing Third Congressional District, which exceeds the federally prescribed district size by 44,000 people. The House eventually affirmed the plan after nearly 4 hours of debate by a vote of [79-37](#).

The [map](#) will now head to the Governor’s desk.

**SPARK INVESTMENT IDEA SUBMISSION FORM FOR ARPA DOLLARS RELEASED**

The Strengthening People and Revitalizing Kansas (SPARK) Executive Committee released a statement today asking for residents to submit their investment ideas for ARPA dollars through an [online portal](#). The press release notes that the submissions will help assist the four [SPARK Advisory Panels](#): Health & Education, Economic Revitalization, Connectivity, and Efficiency & Modernization, make



recommendations to the [Executive Committee](#) and the State Finance Council. In making decisions, SPARK will adhere to the following guiding principles:

- Prioritize sustainable programs & investments through one-time use of funds vs. substantial expansion of existing services
- Combine with / leverage local and agency funds to maximize use of discretionary funds
- Foster long-term systemic impact for Kansans
- Consider equitable opportunities and outcomes
- Enable flexibility within investment strategies
- Ensure results are measurable to enable tracking & transparency

Interested parties are instructed to complete the submission form in its entirety. **The submission period will close on February 16, 2022.**

More information, including a FAQ document, can be found [here](#).

### **COMPUTER SCIENCE BILL TO BE HEARD**

The [House Education Committee](#) will hear a [bill](#) next week that would allocate nearly \$2 million to create a grant to both benefit both students and teachers who are looking to pursue further computer science education. The proposal would establish the Computer Science Education Advanced Grant Fund. The [State Board of Education](#) would award grants to professional learning providers to develop and implement professional development programs for computer science programs to be taught in the state. It would also prescribe various requirements for offering computer science courses in high school, as well as provisions for how new and existing teachers would be recruited and trained to teach such courses.

The hearing on the bill has been rescheduled, due to a long floor debate, for Tuesday, February 1, 2022.

### **MASSIVE HEARING BEFORE SENATE LOCAL GOV. COMMITTEE ON KANSAS RENEWABLE ENERGY TRANSPARENCY ACT**

The [Senate Local Government Committee](#) held hearings this week on [SB325](#), which pertained to zoning requirements and the recording of easements and leases for wind and solar energy projects. After July 1, 2022, this bill would require that before project developers could secure a building or special use permit the property must be zoned industrial. The bill also provides for a protest of a rezone if 10% of the electors petition the county commission for a referendum on the rezone. If the election is successful, the rezone will not occur, and that property cannot be rezoned industrial for 4 years. Additionally, any leases or easements for a wind or solar project must be recorded with the Register of Deeds within 30 days, the project is void.

Proponents for the measure noted that project developers secure property leases before securing zoning or regulatory proposals. Many leases also include “gag orders” that prevent leaseholders from sharing information about the project or the terms of the lease. The project developers use the leases to force county commissions to approve the project. Supporters said they see SB325 as providing transparency during this leasing process.

Opponents noted that the bill is very restrictive for the siting and development of wind and solar energy projects. They also note that companies who erect renewable energy sites work closely with landowners and counties have been good about creating sufficient regulations that are consistent with industry standards.

The bill has not yet been scheduled to be worked.

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR APPEARS BEFORE JOINT COMMITTEE TO GIVE UPDATE ON UNEMPLOYMENT SYSTEM**

After nearly two years of controversy surrounding its unemployment fraud and IT system, the Kansas Department of Labor presented an update before a Joint hearing of the [House](#) and [Senate](#) Commerce Committees. Secretary Amber Schultz, who was [appointed](#) at the end of January, told the Joint Committee that while unemployment claims had ticked up slightly, more of them were legitimate filings compared to figures from a year ago. Overall, it is estimated Kansas has paid roughly \$700 million in fraudulent employment claims in 2021.

The Secretary also noted that KDOL is completing its RFP process after the original RFP was published in April of 2021. The detailed slide deck from the Secretary showing statistics on unemployment insurance claims and modernization updates can be found [here](#).

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE: JANUARY 31 – FEBRUARY 4, 2022**

*Schedule subject to change. Daily Session calendars may be found [here](#).*

**MONDAY, JANUARY 31**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Room</b>	<b>Agenda</b>
8:30 PM	S Agriculture	144-S	Bill Intros; Budget Hearing: State Fair
8:30 AM	S Public Health & Welfare	142-S	N/A
8:30 AM	S Transportation	546-S	N/A
9:00 AM	H Appropriations	112-N	N/A
9:00 AM	H Fed & State	346-S	N/A
9:00 AM	H Water	152-S	Bill Intros; Dam Safety Program
9:00 AM	H Financial Inst. & Rural	218-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2568- KS Mortgage Business Act
9:00 AM	H Local Government	281-N	N/A
9:30 AM	S Tax	548-S	N/A
9:30 AM	S Financial Inst.	546-S	N/A
9:30 AM	S Transparency & Ethics	142-S	N/A
10:30 AM	S Commerce	546-S	N/A
10:30 AM	S Fed & State	144-S	Bill Intros; Hearings: SB179- State holiday, SB370- Defend the guard Act, SB360- KS Assistance Animals in Housing Act
10:30 AM	S Judiciary	346-S	Bill Intros; Hearings: SB366- Redefining crime of burglary, SB367- Amending office search procedures; Possible Action
10:30 AM	SWAM Corrections	548-S	Budget Hearings: Commission on Peace Officers, Sentencing Commission
11:00 AM	HOUSE FLOOR		
11:00 AM	SWAM Higher Ed.	548-S	Budget Hearing & Action: Historical Society, State Library

11:30 AM	SWAM Gen. Gov	548-S	Budget Hearings: BIDS, Human Rights Commission, Office of Admin. Hearings
1:30 PM	S Education	144-S	Bill Intros; Action: SB340- KS Promise Scholarship Act, SB215- Drivers Ed. Programs in Dep. Rev.
1:30 PM	S Utilities	548-S	Bill Intros; Budget Hearings and Action: CURB & KCC
1:30 PM	H Ag. Budget	118-N	Bill Intros; Budget Hearing Department of Credit Unions, Office of State Bank Commissioner
1:30 PM	H Children & Seniors	152-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2525- Removing non-cooperation from reqs. Childcare Assistance; Possible Action
1:30 PM	H Commerce	346-S	Bill Intros, Presentation: Real World Learning
1:30 PM	H Corrections & JJ	546-S	Bill Intros; Hearing HB2471- Prohibiting restraints in juvenile courts
1:30 PM	H Education	218-N	N/A
1:30 PM	H Health & Human Ser.	112-N	N/A
1:30 PM	H Higher Ed. Budget	281-N	Budget Hearings: Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board, Board of Healing Arts
1:30 PM	H Transportation	582-N	N/A
2:30 PM	SENATE FLOOR		
3:30 PM	H Agriculture	112-N	N/A
3:30 PM	Gen. Gov. Budget	281-N	Bill Intros; Briefing: Real Estate Appraisal Board Budget
3:30 PM	H Judiciary	582-N	N/A
3:30 PM	H K-12 Budget	546-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2511- Kansas State High School Activities Association reporting child abuse
3:30 PM	H Social Services Budget	152-S	Bill Intros; Budget Hearings: Board of Pharmacy, Board of Mortuary Arts, Guardianship Program
3:30 PM	H Tax	346-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2467- Income Tax subtraction for certain amounts received by servicemembers
3:30 PM	H Transportation Budget	118-N	Bill Intros; Budget Hearings: Abstracters' Board of Examiners, Board of Technical Professions, EMS Board
3:30 PM	H Insurance	218-N	Possible Action on Bills Previously Heard

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1**

Time	Committee	Room	Agenda
8:30 PM	S Agriculture	144-S	Bill Intros; Budget Hearing: Wildlife & Parks
8:30 AM	S Public Health & Welfare	142-S	Hearing: SB276- Adoption for Blind persons; Action: SB200- Pharmacist's Scope of Practice, HB2262- Updating drug grid
8:30 AM	S Transportation	546-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB379- Use & Regulation of autonomous vehicles

9:00 AM	H Appropriations	112-N	Bill Intros; Update on KDOT IKE Plan, Children's Cabinet
9:00 AM	H Fed & State	346-S	Bill Intros; Overview from ABC
9:00 AM	H Water	152-S	N/A
9:00 AM	H Utilities & Telecom	582-N	Bill Intros; Presentation on nuclear energy
9:00 AM	H Veterans	281-N	Bill Intros; Presentation: Dep. Revenue Division of Motor Vehicles
9:30 AM	S Tax	548-S	Bill Intros; Hearings: SB339- 0% food sales Tax, SB342- 0% food sales tax w/ Farmers Market language
9:30 AM	S Financial Inst. & Insurance	546-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB392- Terminating transfer from Securities Act Fee Fund to SGF
9:30 AM	S Local Government	142-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB316- Adoption of local zoning regulations regarding group homes
10:30 AM	S Commerce	546-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB378- Retail year-round sale of fireworks
10:30 AM	S Fed & State	144-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Issues concerning election integrity
10:30 AM	S Judiciary	346-S	Bill Intros; Hearings: HB2231- Crime of pyramid schemes, HB2277- Definition of possession; Possible Action
10:30 AM	S Ways & Means	548-S	Bill Intros; Presentation: Department of Commerce
11:00 AM	HOUSE FLOOR		
1:30 PM	S Education	144-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB341- Removing federal aid from KS School equity and enhancement act calculations
1:30 PM	S Utilities	548-S	Bill Intros; Briefing on nuclear energy
1:30 PM	H Ag. Budget	118-N	Bill Intros; Budget Action: Department of Credit Unions, Office of State Bank Commissioner; Hearing: Board of Accountancy
1:30 PM	H Children & Seniors	152-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2524- KDADS to regulate nursing agencies; Presentation: LTC Ombudsman; Possible Action
1:30 PM	H Commerce	346-S	Hearing: HB2497- APEX Bill
1:30 PM	H Corrections & JJ	546-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2516- Offender criminal history calculation; HB2517- Drug abuse providers under abuse treatment program
1:30 PM	H Education	218-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2466- Promoting advancement in computing knowledge act
1:30 PM	H Health & Human Ser.	112-N	Action: HB2463- Prohibiting changes to the medical assistance program
1:30 PM	H Higher Ed. Budget	281-N	Bill Intros; Action on budgets previously heard
1:30 PM	H Transportation	582-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB101- Approving operation of E-bikes, HB2478- Renaming highway, HB2483- Distinctive plate

2:30 PM	SENATE FLOOR		
3:30 PM	H Agriculture	112-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2560- Penalties fees and expiration for certain Dep. of Ag
3:30 PM	Gen. Gov. Budget	281-N	Bill Intros; Briefing: Insurance Department; Action: Real Estate Appraisal Board & Real Estate Commission
3:30 PM	H Judiciary	582-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2537- Requiring Insurance Department to hold hearings under KS Administrative Practices Act
3:30 PM	H K-12 Budget	546-S	Bill Intros; Hearings: HB2550- Student Empowerment Act, HB2553- Allowing K-12 to transfer to any school in the State; Possible Action
3:30 PM	H Social Services Budget	152-S	Briefing: Medicaid Provider Rates; Budget Action: Board of Pharmacy, Board of Mortuary Arts, Guardianship Program
3:30 PM	H Tax	346-S	Bill Intros; Hearings: HB2500- Tax authority for Wilson County, SB318- providing sales tax exemption for purchases related to wildfires
3:30 PM	H Transportation Budget	118-N	Budget Hearing: State Fire Marshal; Budget Action: Abstracters' Board of Examiners, Board of Technical Professions, EMS Board
3:30 PM	H Elections	218-N	N/A

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2**

Time	Committee	Room	Agenda
8:30 PM	S Agriculture	144-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: K-State Ag
8:30 AM	S Public Health & Welfare	142-S	Hearing: SB348- Exempting threading from Cosmetology; Action: SB343- Hearing Impaired term, SB129- Licensure of dental therapists
8:30 AM	S Transportation	546-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB379- Use & Regulation of autonomous vehicles
9:00 AM	H. Approps	112-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2548- Additional reporting requirements for IT projects; Briefing: Update on State Hospitals
9:00 AM	H Fed & State	346-S	Bill Intros; Presentation KS Lottery
9:00 AM	H Water	152-S	N/A
9:00 AM	H Financial Inst. & Rural	218-N	Bill Intros; Hearing HB2554- TEFFI Conditional Charter; Briefing: Review of HB2268; Presentation on Rural EcoDevo
9:00 AM	H Local Government	281-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2518- City General Improvement and creation of improvement districts
9:30 AM	S Tax	548-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB359- Expanding 0% state sales tax rate by municipalities
9:30 AM	S Financial Inst. & Insurance	546-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: Updating Uniform Trust Code

9:30 AM	S Transparency & Ethics	142-S	Budget Hearings: Bank Commissioner, Credit Unions,
10:30 AM	S Commerce	546-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Utilizing federal \$ for NIAR WERX program
10:30 AM	S Fed & State	144-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: Racetrack Gaming Bill
10:30 AM	S Judiciary	346-S	Bill Intros; Judicial Branch Updates; Action: HB2361- Establishing Specialty Court Resources Fund
10:30 AM	S Ways & Means	548-S	Bill Intros; Presentation: KDOT
11:00 AM	HOUSE FLOOR		
12:00 PM	LPA	546-S	IT Security Audit- Judiciary (Executive Session)
1:30 PM	S Education	144-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB362- Req. Local BOE to document needs assessments
1:30 PM	S Utilities	548-S	Bill Intros; Possible Action
1:30 PM	H Ag. Budget	118-N	Bill Intros; Action on Board of Accountancy; Budget Hearing: Department of Commerce
1:30 PM	H Children & Seniors	152-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Senior Nutrition; Action on Bills previously heard
1:30 PM	H Commerce	346-S	Cont. Hearing on HB2497- APEX Act
1:30 PM	H Corrections & JJ	546-S	Hearing: HB2515- Relief from Kansas Offender Act; Action: HB2215- Supp. Nutrition Assistance allowing felony drug convictions
1:30 PM	H Education	218-N	Bill Intros; Briefing: Higher Ed. issues
1:30 PM	H Health & Human Ser.	112-N	Briefing: Foster Care Overview
1:30 PM	H Higher Ed. Budget	281-N	Budget Hearing: State Historical Society & State Library
1:30 PM	H Transportation	582-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2491- Highway Renaming, HB2503- Applicants using bill of sale for antique vehicle; Action; Distinctive Plates
2:00 PM	H Leg. Budget	159-S	LBC Reports
2:30 PM	SENATE FLOOR		
3:30 PM	H Agriculture	112-N	K-State Ag Presentation; Arkansas River Conservation
3:30 PM	H General Gov. Budget	281-N	Budget Hearing: KS Lottery and Racing & Gaming; Budget Action: Kansas Insurance Department
3:30 PM	H Judiciary	582-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2538- AV Communication in courtroom; HB2539- Crime of violence in presence of a child; Possible Action
3:30 PM	H K-12 Budget	546-S	Bill Intros; Budget Hearing: State School for Blind; Possible Action
3:30 PM	H Social Services Budget	152-S	Bill Intros; Budget Hearings: Veteran's Affairs, Board of Nursing, Health Care Stabilization Fund
3:30 PM	H Tax	346-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2499- refund of sales tax paid on sale telecom, HB2148- Exemption for Gage Park



3:30 PM	H Transportation Budget	118-N	Bill Intros; Budget Action: State Fire Marshal
3:30 PM	H Insurance	218-N	Hearing: SB199- Short-term limited duration health plans

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3**

Time	Committee	Room	Agenda
8:30 PM	S Agriculture	144-S	Bill Intros; Action on Budgets Previously Heard
8:30 AM	S Public Health & Welfare	142-S	Budget Hearing: Guardianship Program, Veteran's Affairs; Action: SB381- Off-label meds to treat COVID, SB348-Dental therapists
8:30 AM	S Transportation	546-S	N/A
9:00 AM	H Appropriations	112-N	Bill Intros; Budget Report: Gen. Gov. Budget Comm., Transportation Budget Comm.; Possible Action
9:00 AM	H Fed & State	346-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2528- removing certain inflatable rides from Amusement Ride Act
9:00 AM	H Water	152-S	N/A
9:00 AM	H Utilities & Telecom	582-N	Bill Intros; Briefing: Southwest Power Pool
9:00 AM	H Veterans	281-N	N/A
9:30 AM	S Tax	548-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB328- Providing 4.75% income tax rate; Possible Action
9:30 AM	S Financial Inst. & Insurance	546-S	Bill Intros; Possible Action
9:30 AM	S Local Government	142-S	Bill Intros; Possible Action
10:30 AM	S Commerce	546-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2219- KS Targeted Employment Act
10:30 AM	S Fed & State	144-S	Bill Intros; Hearing: SB369-Establishing the Kansas affordable housing tax credit act
10:30 AM	S Judiciary	346-S	Bill Intros; Judicial Branch Update; Action: HB2361- Supreme Court rules for Specialty Courts
10:30 AM	SWAM Human Services	548-S	Budget Hearing: HC Stabilization, KDHE-Health
11:00 AM	HOUSE FLOOR		
1:30 PM	S Education	144-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Private Non-Profit Colleges
1:30 PM	S Utilities	548-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Electric Power Overview
1:30 PM	H Ag. Budget	118-N	Bill Intros; Budget Action: Department of Commerce; Budget Hearing: Wildlife & Parks
1:30 PM	H Children & Seniors	152-S	Bill Intros; Briefing: Child Death Review Board; Possible Action
1:30 PM	H Commerce	346-S	Action: HB2497- APEX Act
1:30 PM	H Corrections & JJ	546-S	N/A
1:30 PM	H Education	218-N	N/A
1:30 PM	H Health & Human Ser.	112-N	Bill Intros; Briefing: Midwest Cell Center
1:30 PM	H Higher Ed. Budget	281-N	Bill Intros; Budget Hearing: Postsecondary Ed. Action on Budgets Previously Heard

1:30 PM	H Transportation	582-N	N/A
2:30 PM	SENATE FLOOR		
3:30 PM	H Agriculture	112-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2559-Creating the Kansas cotton boll weevil program
3:30 PM	Gen. Gov. Budget	281-N	Bill Intros; Briefings: Ethics Commission, Hearing Aid Examiners; Action: KS Lottery, Racing & Gaming
3:30 PM	H Judiciary	582-N	Bill Intros; Hearing: HB2536- Rights for survivors of sexual assault, HB2508- KBI Fingerprints placed in Rap Back Program; Possible Action
3:30 PM	H K-12 Budget	546-S	N/A
3:30 PM	H Social Services Budget	152-S	Bill Intros; Cont. Budget Hearings: Veteran's Affairs, Board of Nursing, HC Stab. Fund; Briefing: Child Support & Medicaid Dental Rates
3:30 PM	H Tax	346-S	N/A
3:30 PM	H Transportation Budget	118-N	N/A
3:30 PM	H Elections	218-N	N/A

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4**

Time	Committee	Room	Agenda
9:00 AM	Sen. Ways & Means	548-S	Subcommittee Reports
9:00 AM	KanCare Oversight	112-N	KanCare Updates