

# KANSAS LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

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## APPROVED INTERIM TOPICS BY SUBJECT

### JOINT COMMITTEES

(Requests and meeting days have been amended to reflect the recommendations adopted by the LCC. A complete listing of requested topics and meeting days is published in a separate memorandum.)

#### Administrative Rules and Regulations

##### *Review Proposed Administrative Rules and Regulations*

- Review and comment on administrative rules and regulations promulgated by state agencies within the required 60-day comment period.

#### Corrections and Juvenile Justice Oversight

***KSA 2016 Supp. 46-2801 directs the Joint Committee to monitor inmate and juvenile offender populations and to review and study the programs, activities, plans, and operations of the Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC). In addition, the Joint Committee is to study:***

- Implementation of juvenile justice reform;
- Offense proportionality in the adult sentencing grid;
- Implications of juvenile immediate intervention program (diversion) and adjudication relating to future employment - use for impeachment of witness (Review and consider Judicial Council Report); and
- Criminal justice reforms efforts nationally.

## **Home and Community Based Services and KanCare Oversight, Robert G. (Bob) Bethell Joint Committee**

### ***Oversee Long-term Care Services***

KSA 2016 Supp. 39-7,160 directs the Committee to oversee long-term care services, including home and community based services (HCBS). The Committee is to oversee the savings resulting from the transfer of individuals from state or private institutions to HCBS and to ensure that any proceeds resulting from the successful transfer be applied to the system for the provision of services for long-term care system. Further, the Committee is to oversee the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), the Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), and the state Medicaid program (KanCare), and monitor and study the implementation and operations of these programs including, but not limited to, access to and quality of services provided and any financial information and budgetary issues.

### **Information Technology**

#### ***Review, Monitor, and Report on Technology Plans and Expenditures***

- Review and monitor state agency and institution technology plans and expenditures;
- Make recommendations to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and House Committee on Appropriations on implementation plans, budget estimates, and three-year strategic information technology plans of state agencies and institutions;
- Evaluate the status of the Kansas Eligibility Enforcement System (KEES) project;
- Evaluate the status of cybersecurity preparedness within the State;
- Follow up with the Department of Commerce on activity related to the data breach that occurred in March 2017;
- Allow members of the private sector to present relevant information to the Joint Committee; and
- Review IT security reports and IT project reports in Executive Session from the Legislative Division of Post Audit.

### **Kansas Security**

#### ***Review Various Security Matters***

KSA 46-3301 directs the Joint Committee to study, monitor, review, and make recommendations on matters related to the security of state officers or employees, state and

other public buildings and other property and infrastructure in the state, and to consider measures for the improvement of security for the state. In addition, the Committee is authorized to address these additional topics:

- Emergency communications;
- Organization of private, civilian resources related to state emergency preparedness and security; and
- Resources and readiness of the Kansas National Guard.

## **Legislative Budget**

### ***State Budget Issues***

The Legislative Budget Committee is statutorily directed to:

- Compile fiscal information, study and make recommendations on the state budget, revenues, and expenditures, the organization and functions of the state, its departments, subdivisions, and agencies with a view of reducing the cost of state government and increasing efficiency and economy.

In addition to the statutory duties, the Budget Committee is to:

- Review changes to the approved budget for state agencies that will be submitted this interim including the new Performance Based Budgeting System;
- Review State General Fund receipts and the impact of statutory changes to be implemented in July;
- Review the implementation of the new School Finance Formula;
- Review the financial, possible procedural changes and Centers for Medicare (CMS) licensing for the Osawatomie State Mental Health Hospital and Larned State Mental Health Hospital, along with the use of other facilities on the Larned campus;
- Review the implementation of the new State Employee Health Clinic;
- Review KPERs working after retirement and unfunded actuarial liability;
- Review the use of bonds in the Kansas Department of Transportation;
- Review the need for, funding of, and source for cyber-security;

- Review possible construction and other changes to the Lansing Correctional facility; and
- Review funding and the impact of the recent wildfires in Kansas.

## **Pensions, Investments and Benefits (Joint KPERS)**

### ***Monitor, Review, and Make Recommendations Regarding the Retirement System***

The Committee is to consider the following:

- Legislation enacted during the 2015 Legislative Session affecting the Kansas Public Employee Retirement System (KPERS or Retirement System), particularly House Sub. for SB 21, which provides new working-after-retirement provisions;
- Performance of the pension obligation bonds issued in 2004 (\$500 million) and 2015 (\$1.0 billion);
- The overall funding ratio for the Retirement System;
- Various reports statutorily required to be submitted by KPERS to the Joint Committee; and
- To fulfill the Joint Committee's duties and responsibilities, as provided by KSA 46-2201, to monitor, review, and make recommendations regarding the Retirement System.

## **Special Claims Against the State**

### ***Review Claims Filed***

- Hold hearings on all claims filed by the statutory deadline of November 1, 2017, and make recommendations to the 2018 Session of the Legislature.

## **State Building Construction**

### ***Study, Review, and Make Recommendations on Capital Improvement Plans and Other State-owned Properties and Leases***

The Joint Committee is authorized by KSA 46-1701, which includes provisions allowing the Joint Committee to meet on call of its Chairperson at any time and any place within the state and to introduce legislation. The Committee is to:

- Study, review, and make recommendations on all agency five-year capital improvement plans;

- Review leases, land sales, and other statutorily required reports by agencies; and
- Travel throughout the state to observe state-owned buildings.

## **SPECIAL / STANDING COMMITTEES**

### **Assessment and Taxation**

#### ***Review and Monitor State Revenue Sources and Analyze Implementation of the Tax Lid***

The Special Committee will review major state revenue sources and changes in state tax policy enacted in recent years; monitor implementation of the new individual income tax law by the Department of Revenue; conduct an overview of the State General Fund finances as it relates to FY 2018 and FY 2019; analyze additional issues involving taxation by local units of government, including implementation of the tax lid; and make any recommendations deemed appropriate to the 2018 Legislature.

### **Commerce**

#### ***Study and Make Recommendations Regarding the Sales Tax and Revenue (STAR) Bond Financing Act and Other Incentive Programs***

The Special Committee is to study the effectiveness of the Sales Tax and Revenue (STAR) Bond Financing Act and other incentive programs with a similar purpose, as identified by the Interim Commerce Committee, and may make any recommendations to ensure Kansas continues to provide a framework for future economic growth.

### **Elections**

#### ***Study and Make Recommendation Regarding Ranked Choice Voting.***

The Committee is to study, review, and make recommendations regarding the implementation of a ranked choice voting system, where the winner of the election must get a majority (not just a plurality) of the votes.

### **Financial Institutions and Insurance**

#### ***Review of 2017 legislation affecting certain consumer loans and the Uniform Consumer Credit Code (UCCC) [HB 2267] and 2017 legislation modifying automobile liability insurance policy requirements [HB 2104]***

The Committee is directed to:

- Study the impact of 2017 HB 2267. This review would include a study of current finance charges, rates, and terms under the UCCC; the impact of the proposed legislation and potential modifications related to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's anticipated Final Rule on small dollar lending on financial institutions, loan companies, and Kansas consumers; and the current regulatory environment in Kansas; and
- Review the potential impact associated with amendments to the Insurance Code governing automobile liability insurance policies contained in 2017 HB 2104. Such study should include a review of insurance policy pricing and the marketplace, cost estimates and other available data relating to impact on premiums and policyholders, and pertinent driver data.

## **Health**

### ***Study Telehealth and Telemedicine and Consider 2017 Legislation***

The Committee is directed to:

- Study the subjects of telehealth and telemedicine in order to increase and improve health care access for all Kansans;
- Review and consider 2017 HB 2206, which addresses coverage of telemedicine in health insurance policies and contracts; and
- Review and consider 2017 HB 2254, which addresses the practice and delivery of telehealth services by certain providers.

## **Natural Resources**

### ***Study and Make Recommendations Regarding the Funding of the State Water Plan Fund***

The Committee is directed to:

- Review current and historical State Water Plan funding, projects, and recommendations of the Governor's Blue-Ribbon Water Funding Task Force;
- Discuss possible funding options based on state-wide needs, priorities, and realistic funding options with agency officials, stakeholders, and interested members of the public; and
- Propose introduction of legislation for the 2018 Legislative Session.

## **Utilities**

### ***Study and Make Recommendations Regarding Rural Broadband Deployment***

The Committee is directed to identify ways to get broadband services deployed to all Kansans at affordable rates, including, but not limited to, discussion of the following topics:

- Consider incentives for broadband deployment in unserved and underserved areas of the state;
- Consider whether guidelines should exist regarding overbuilding an existing provider in order to reach and affordably serve unserved and underserved Kansans;
- Define unserved and underserved in terms of broadband speeds, affordability, length of time a digital divide between urban and rural areas should exist because advanced delivery technologies are not installed;
- Establish what technologies should be supported as appropriate to deliver reliable, affordable broadband in Kansas; and
- Identify what actions the state can take to facilitate development of competitive broadband markets in rural areas, including incentives for partnerships between communities, rural electric cooperative, incumbent providers, and alternative providers.

## **OTHER COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS, AND TASK FORCES**

### **Capitol Preservation Committee**

#### ***Review Various Issues Regarding the Capitol***

The Committee study would:

- Review progress of the *Brown v. Board of Education* mural; and
- Consider Capitol grounds plans (which may include the Ad Astra Plaza).

### **Child Welfare System Task Force**

#### ***Study the Child Welfare System in the State of Kansas***

2017 House Sub. for SB 126 directs the Secretary for Children and Families to establish a Child Welfare System Task Force to study the child welfare system in the State of Kansas. The bill directs the Task Force to convene working groups to study the following topics: the

general administration of child welfare by the Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF); protective services; family preservation; reintegration; foster care; and permanency placement. Additionally, the Task Force and each working group are directed to study the following topics:

- The level of oversight and supervision by DCF over each entity that contracts with DCF to provide reintegration, foster care, and adoption services;
- The duties, responsibilities, and contributions of state agencies, nongovernmental entities, and service providers that provide child welfare services in the State of Kansas;
- The level of access to child welfare services, including, but not limited to, health and mental health services and community based services in the State of Kansas;
- The increasing number of children in the child welfare system and contributing factors;
- The licensing standards for case managers working in the child welfare system; and
- Any other topic the Child Welfare System Task Force or a working group deems necessary or appropriate.

### **Confirmation Oversight**

#### ***Review Pending Appointments***

The Committee is directed to review pending appointments and make appropriate recommendations.

### **Health Care Stabilization Fund Oversight Committee**

#### ***Review the Status of the Health Care Stabilization Fund***

This Committee annually receives a report on the status of the Health Care Stabilization Fund and makes recommendations regarding the financial status of the Fund.