



NEWS FROM THE CAPITOL

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NRA Gun Training Bill

HB 2460 : It is incredible that Kansas has spent a lot of time having hearings on several bills regarding who should be allowed to carry guns, how old they should be, where they can carry and what, if any changes should be made to our current wide-open carry state laws. This year the House passed a bill reducing the legal age to carry to 18 yrs. in order to reciprocate with other states. It also included a provision that requires licensing, background checks and training for all 18-21 yr. old's and everyone who carries on a college campus.

In light of yet another school tragedy, leadership took a bill off of the agenda that would have required schools to utilize the NRA's Eddie Eagle GunSafe training program for schools that offer gun safety class. The House Republicans said they called off debate because they want to work on a comprehensive plan for preventing gun violence at schools.

In Recognition of the Innocent -- The Andrew Finch Bill

HB 2581: The legislature named this bill "The Andrew Finch Bill". To punish "swatting" – the crime of giving a false alarm to law enforcement. The naming was done in recognition of the innocent man in Wichita who was killed by police when they responded to a desperate report made in a "swat" call.

Under current law, this offense applies to transmitting a false fire alarm to a fire department, knowing there is no reasonable ground for believing such fire exists, and to making a call in any manner for emergency service assistance including police, fire, medical, or other emergency service, knowing there is no reasonable ground for believing such assistance is needed.

Noxious Weeds Bill

HB 2583: Gives the Secretary of Agriculture temporary authority to declare a weed noxious rather than going through the legislative process and establishes a public advisory board that includes members from academic, scientific, rural landowners and the Kansas Department of Agriculture. Amendments made in committee allow for eradication of noxious weeds with or without the use of chemicals.

Pet Animal Act (Corrected Link Attached)

HB 2477: The Kansas Pet Animal Act, it was passed on the House floor and now goes to the Senate with important floor amendments attached. It will now require the inspectors to make unannounced visits.

- Would require the department make unannounced visits for inspections
- Licensure will not be required if an individual has a written and signed agreement to provide temporary care for one or more dogs or cats owned by an animal shelter
- Animal shelters in first class cities (Manhattan is a first-class city) license fee will not exceed \$400
- Animal shelters in second class cities license fee will not exceed \$335
- Animal shelters in third class cities license fee will not exceed \$285

- If the owner can't make their premise ready for inspection within 30 minutes before the inspection, a \$200 fine will be issued
- If the owner of the premise fails to pass inspection a \$200 fine will be issued to the owner

Privatization of Correctional Facilities Bill

HB 2551: Prohibits the state of Kansas from entering into a private correctional facility. The bill would define "security operations" to include supervision of inmates in a correctional institution or juvenile correctional facility by a corrections officer or warden. The Secretary would be granted rule and regulation authority to identify job classifications and duties to be considered part of security operations.

Wireless Transfer Legislation

HB 2524: Allows domestic violence and stalking victims the following:

1. To get a court order to separate their wireless account from their abuser
2. It authorizes a court to issue an order permitting a wireless service provider to transfer the victim's and the victim's children's wireless service to a new account where they can retain their wireless devices and associated telephone numbers.
3. The account transfer does not require the existing/original account holder's consent.
4. Throughout the court order and transfer process, the victim's information is kept protected and secure.

Bills Discussed on the Floor

More than 50 bills were debated in the House this week. Following please find some of the bills:

HB 2361: Moves the administration of the State Workers Compensation Self-Insurance Fund (SSIF) from the Department of Health and Environment to the Department of Administration.

HB 2480: Amends the definition of "misdemeanor crime of domestic violence" in the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Act to replace a list of persons with various relationships to the victim (like a current or former spouse) who may commit the crime with the phrase "against a person with whom the offender is involved or has been involved in a 'dating relationship' or is a 'family or household member' as defined in the domestic battery criminal statute at the time of the offense."

HB 2496: Enacts the Nurse Licensure Compact. The Compact would allow RNs and LPNs to have one multi-state license, with the privilege to practice in the home state of Kansas and in other Compact states.

HB 2498: Prohibits state agencies and municipalities from prohibiting any individual from wearing tribal regalia or objects of cultural significance.

HB 2530: Adds an emergency medical services (EMS) attendant to the list of mandatory reporters of abuse, neglect, exploitation.

HB 2539: Amends the qualifications for candidacy for several statewide elected offices. The bill would require every candidate for the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, State Treasurer, and State Commissioner of Insurance be a qualified elector of Kansas. The bill also would require a candidate for the office of the Attorney General to be licensed to practice law in Kansas.

HB 2551: Requires prior legislative authorization for any state agency to enter into any agreement or take any action to outsource or privatize security operations of any correctional or juvenile correctional facility operated by a state agency. The bill would apply to security operations or job classifications and duties associated with a security operation of correctional or juvenile correctional facilities.

HB 2571: Amends the statute governing disclosure of audio or video recordings made and retained by law enforcement using a body camera or a vehicle camera (law enforcement recordings)

HB 2700: Amends the law related to the disclosure of public records to require the redaction of all portions of an individual's social security number on any document or record before it is made available for public inspection or copying.

HB 2701: Establishes the Statewide Broadband Expansion Task Force.

[Expert Witness for School Finance Presents to Committee](#)

In the *Gannon* case on school finance in Kansas, Republican leadership hired an expert witness. That witness, Lori Taylor, will present to both the House K-12 Budget and Senate Committees on Friday.

An expert witness is a person who testifies in court, based on their extensive knowledge in a particular area. Taylor is conducting a study over the Kansas school finance case and will present her findings the legislature on March 15th.

[Page Information](#)

If you have a student that would like to be a page for the Legislature, please contact my assistant, Dixie Sypher either by phone (785-296-7657) or by email at dixie.sypher@house.ks.gov. The first available date is: Mar. 7, for 4 students. To become a Page you must be 12 years of age or older.

[Kansas State Library Information](#)

Small business owners and would-be entrepreneurs will be interested in the **Small Business Reference Center** provided by the State Library of Kansas. It's a vast resource that provides industry specific data, sample business plans, marketing guides, business start-up kits, and Nolo legal guides. Business Basics covers starting a business, managing employees and more. This Center includes more than 400 full text magazines with articles that can be printed, saved or emailed and 450 full-text reference books. <https://kslib.info/SmBiz>

If the page above asks for a Kansas Library eCard number, you may get one at any library in Kansas. Most people will be automatically recognized as inside Kansas and will not need this step. Questions: kslc@ks.gov or 785-296-3296.

[Washington Days](#)

The Kansas Democratic Party's annual convention, Washington Days, will be held at the Downtown Topeka Ramada on March 2nd and 3rd, 2018. It's the largest gathering of Democrats in the state and a guaranteed good time. Washington Days includes a rally, caucus meetings, a luncheon, a cocktail reception, and much more. The keynote speaker this year will be Paul Buttigieg, Mayor of South Bend, Indiana. He will speak on Saturday evening at Topeka High School.

[Find the schedule and answers to frequently asked questions here.](#)

[2018 Republican State Convention](#)

The Republican State Conventions was held this past weekend in Wichita.

[Special Events/Visitors to my Office](#)

[Visitors to the Capitol this week:](#)

4-H Citizenship in Action, Day in the Capitol, Monday, February 19th.

[Keep in touch](#)

It is a special honor to serve as your state representative. I both value and need your input on the various issues facing state government. Please feel free to contact me with your comments and questions. My office address is Room 451-S, 300 SW 10th, Topeka, KS 66612. You can reach me at (785) 296-7657 or call the legislative hotline at 1-800-432-3924 to leave a message for me. Additionally, you can e-mail me at, sydney.carlin@house.ks.gov, or www.sydneycarlinforkansas.com. You can also follow the legislative session online at www.kslegislature.org

Proudly representing you in the Capitol

Sydney Carlin, 66th District

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