



NEWS FROM THE CAPITOL

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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 available dates are: **Mar. 15 & Mar. 28** for 4 students each date. To become a Page you must be 12 years of age or older.

No Plan for School Funding

The Kansas Supreme Court issued its *Gannon* ruling declaring the 2017 school funding plan unconstitutional on October 2nd of last year. That was 158 days ago. The legislature has had 6 full months to act on a new plan that will fund our schools equitably and adequately – knowing for these full 6 months that we have a deadline of April 30, 2018. Today (March 9th) is the 56th day of the 2018 legislative session. The legislature still has no plan to address the Gannon ruling. The Kansas Supreme Court will rule on June 30th whether or not the 2018 school funding plan satisfies the requirements. Kansans overwhelmingly support more funding for our schools. Recent polling has shown that 85% of Kansan’s are concerned about the level of spending in our schools. We must ensure that children – no matter where they live – have good teachers and access to a quality education.

Due Process Restored for Teachers

In good news for schools, the House debated a due process bill for teachers in Kansas. Thursday, that due process bill (HB 2757) passed the House on Final Action. It now goes to the Senate. Due process was stripped from teachers in 2014; the restoration of this practice ensures that educators are guaranteed a fair termination process. There is currently a major teacher shortage in the state. Due process is a good tool to recruit and keep quality teachers in our schools.

Anti-Bullying Bill Passes House

The anti-bullying bill passed the House this week will address bullying, cyber-bullying, and harassment within schools in order to better protect both students and teachers. The bill (HB 2758) will require all school

districts put in place an official procedure for reporting bullying, cyber-bullying, and/or harassment, with the opportunity to report these incidents anonymously should the victim choose. The bill also requires each school district to have a plan on file with the State Department of Education that includes consequences and appropriate remedial action for anyone who commits the act of bullying, cyber-bullying, or harassment.

Bills I supported on the Floor of the House

This week, the House worked and passed the following bills on the floor:

HB 2416: Enacts a new income tax credit for tax years 2018-2022 equivalent to 15 percent of expenditures on goods and services purchased from qualified vendors or non-profit certified businesses providing a certain level of health insurance benefits and having at least 30 percent of their employees be resident Kansans with disabilities.

HB 2606: Specifies vision test requirements for qualifying applicants for electronic online driver's license renewal.

HB 2757: Amends law concerning teachers' due process procedures when such teachers receive notice their contracts will be terminated or non-renewed.

HB 2758: Amends law governing school district bullying plans. The bill would amend the required contents of such plans to include consequences and appropriate remedial action for a person who commits an act of bullying, harassment, or cyberbullying.

Sub HB 2572: Requires the Department of Commerce to establish a database for disclosing information on economic development incentive programs, which would be defined to include certain income tax credits and locally-granted property tax exemptions in addition to various programs administered directly by the Department.

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 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.

Bills I opposed on the Floor of the House

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.

Final Action (Next Week)

SB 405: An Act concerning the department of health and environment; relating to animal conversion units; poultry facilities and confined feeding facilities.

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

Kansas State Library Information

Consumer Health Complete covers all areas of health and wellness. Did your doctor prescribe a new medication? Recently diagnosed with diabetes? Look it up here. Designed for the everyday consumer, this online database provided by the State Library of Kansas offers popular reference books, medical encyclopedias, fact sheets, and magazine articles. This full text database covers topics such as aging, nutrition, cancer, fitness, drugs and alcohol, even yoga. <https://kslib.info/ConHealth>

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@library.ks.gov or 785-296-3296.

Special Events/Visitors to my Office

Visitors to the Capitol this week:

- Kansas Optometric Association
- Kansas Auto Dealers Association
- Boys & Girls Clubs
- March of Dimes
- Kansas Volunteer Commission
- Kansas Health Institute
- Dodge City Days



Gracie Danner, Rep Carlin, Tarra Rotstein with the Kansas Corn Collegiate Academy



These students researched the puppy business in Kansas and wrote story books about what they learned.



Rep Carlin and former City Representative Jan Scoggins at the Dodge City Days Event.



Mayor of South Bend, Indiana



Boys & Girls Clubs on the floor of the House of Representatives



Nancie Bush, Manhattan, stopped by today (Thursday) after KSU beat TCU in overtime.

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Proudly representing you in the Capitol

Sydney Carlin, 66th District

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My Website>> SydneyCarlinforKansas.com