



NEWS FROM THE CAPITOL

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In This Issue

Would anyone like to Page on March 28
Education Study Results Show Money Matters
Another Medicaid Expansion Attempt Blocked
Equality Day at the Capitol
Pharmacy Bill

Kansas Armed Forces Appreciation Day
Bills Passed on the Floor
Kansas State Library Information
Special Events/Visitors to my office
Keep In Touch

Would anyone like to Page on March 28?

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. 28** for 4 students each date. To become a page, you must be 12 years of age or older.

Education Study Results Show Money Matters

Expert witness Dr. Lori Taylor, hired by the Kansas Legislature in the *Gannon* case to conduct a school finance study, presented her findings on Monday this week. In a joint meeting with the House K-12 Education Budget Committee and the Senate Select Committee on Education Finance, Dr. Taylor concluded several key points.

- Kansas schools have been severely underfunded for several years.
- There is indeed a correlation between funding amounts and student performance.
- Kansas schools use their dollars more efficiently than most states.
- It will take a significant amount of money to rectify past underfunding, increase student performance, and to satisfy the Kansas Supreme Court.

The Kansas Supreme Court ruled in October of last year that the amount of dollars appropriated to school funding in the legislature's 2017 school finance bill was neither adequate or equitable. The Court set a deadline of April 30, 2018, for a new bill from the legislature, to be ruled upon June 30, 2018.

Another Medicaid Expansion Attempt Blocked in the House

On Wednesday, Kansas House Democrats again made an attempt at Medicaid expansion, which would provide 150,000 Kansans who are currently uninsured with medical coverage.

The expansion amendment was found nongermane, which means that the amendment could not be attached to the bill and there was no debate or vote over expansion. Kansas House Democrats will continue to push for Medicaid expansion for some of our most vulnerable Kansans.

Equality Day at the Capitol

Tuesday was Equality Day at the Capitol, recognizing the LGBTQ community in Kansas.

Next to the American and Kansas flags on the 2nd floor rotunda flew a rainbow flag and a blue and pink striped flag – the latter standing for transgender pride. Equality Day reminds Kansans that all communities deserve recognition, acceptance, and civil rights. In Kansas, this day is of particular importance as the LGBTQ community must fight for these things every single day.

Pharmacy Bill

SB 351: Creates the Kansas Pharmacy Patients Fair Practices Act. *SB 351 passed, now goes to Governor.*

SB 351 represents a compromise between the Kansas Pharmacists Association, which is the statewide professional association that represents Kansas pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and student pharmacists from all practice settings, and Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM) representatives in Kansas.

After the initial hearing on the bill in the Senate Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee, PBMs created a compromise which focused on resolving the priority issues (allowing cost & pricing transparency for the Pharmacy consumer, also allowing pharmacists the ability to discuss lower-cost alternatives with their patients without fear of reprisal). The compromise bill passed the Senate 39-0, then passed out of House Insurance Committee unanimous. SB 351 allows better pricing transparency, communication and consultation by pharmacists with pharmacy consumers will be strongly supported. *SB 351 passed, now goes to the Governor.*

Ks Armed Forces Appreciation Day

On Thursday, March 22, 2018, the Capitol (inside and out) was filled with Soldiers and Airmen from the Kansas National Guard hosting exhibits.

Inside the Capitol building were exhibits regarding:

- 73rd Civil Support Team
- 184th Intelligence Wing
- 190th Air Refueling Wing
- Directorate of Military Support
- 235th Regiment and the Kansas Training Center
- State Partnership Program
- Military Funeral Honors Program
- Education Services
- Kansas Army and Air National Guard Recruiting

Outside on the Lawn of the Capitol building, were exhibits:

- Armored Security Vehicle
- High Mobility Artillery Rocket System
- 73rd Civil Support Team
- 284th Air Support Operations Squadron
- Advanced Turbine Engine Army Maintenance

Bills Passed on the Floor of the House

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

HB 2103: Requires the State Employees Health Care Commission (which administers the State health care benefits program for state employees and other qualified entities) to provide coverage for amino acid-based elemental formula, regardless of delivery method, for the diagnosis or treatment of food protein-induced enterocolitis syndrome, eosinophilic disorders, or short bowel syndrome if this formula is prescribed. *HB 2103 now goes to the Senate.*

HB 2526: Revises the Rules and Regulations Filing Act pertaining to economic impact statements, new authority granted to the Director of the Budget (Director) to review and approve proposed rules and regulations. *HB 2526 passed as amended.*

HB 2598: Amends the section of the Kansas Open Records Act related to the unlawful use of names derived from public records. *HB 2598 recommended passage failed on the House floor.*

HB 2625: Amends the section of the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Act related to the central registry of Kansas police officers and law enforcement officers. *HB 2625 goes to Senate.*

SB 185: revise the powers of Johnson and Labette counties pertaining to the Old Army Ammunition Plant for redevelopment districts and authorities. *SB 185 passed as amended, now goes back to Senate.*

SB 294: Removes a requirement in the Vehicle Dealers and Manufacturers Licensing Act that the holder of a vehicle salesperson license be tested by written examination at license renewal. *SB 294 passed, goes to Governor.*

SB 324: add two sections to the Vehicle Dealers and Manufacturers Licensing Act on improvements to dealer facilities, dealer performance criteria, and recall repairs. *SB 324 is in Conference Committee.*

SB 375: Adds specified exemptions to limits on vehicle weights and lengths. *SB 375 is in Conference Committee.*

SB 398: change the requirements for an individual to qualify for a senior status cosmetologist license by lowering the age and reducing the number of years required to practice. *SB 398 passed, now goes to Governor.*

For Monday Final Action

Sub HB 2427: AN ACT concerning health and healthcare; relating to powers and duties of the Kansas department for aging and disability services regarding certain providers and facilities; adult care homes; home health aides; providers of disability services; providing for licensure, employment and background checks of employees of such providers and facilities; amending K.S.A. 2017 Supp. 39-970, 39-2009 and 65-5117 and repealing the existing sections. *Sub HB 2427 Recommended favorable for passage.*

HB 2778: Amends law related to contracts between the State and persons or companies who are actively engaged in a boycott of Israel. Persons contracting with the state will not be required to certify they will not boycott Israel. *HB 2778 Recommended favorable for passage.*

SB 331: Adds to the list of designated state parks the 100-mile-long Flint Hills Trail State Park located in Miami, Franklin, Osage, Lyon, Morris, and Dickinson counties, and the 200 acres in Logan County Little Jerusalem Badlands State Park located in Logan County. *SB 331 Recommended as amended, favorable for passage.*

Kansas State Library Information

The **Kansas Talking Books** program, a division of the State Library of Kansas, provides library materials in a specialized format to any Kansas resident with a visual impairment, physical impairment, or reading disability. A signature from a certifying authority such as a medical doctor, optometrist, or librarian is needed. This no-charge service includes fiction and nonfiction audiobooks, magazines such as *Kansas!* and *Reader's Digest*, plus descriptive videos. A simple application is available at <https://kslib.info/talking-books>. If you or someone you know would like information or an application, please visit the Kansas Talking Books website <https://kslib.info/talking-books> or call 620-341-6280 or 1-800-362-0699.

Special Events/Visitors to my Office

Visitors to the Capitol this week:

- Brain Injury Awareness Month
- Military Appreciation Day
- Equality Day at the Capitol
- Ks Master Teacher of the Year



Pages 3/21/18 – with Governor Colyer



Rep Carlin, Elanor Bryant and Ellori Nichols
paging on 3/21/18

(Elanor' parents are Ben & Crystal Bryant and
Ellori's parents are Anthony & Janet Nichols)



Rep Carlin & Deanna Burton, Kansas
Master Teacher of the Year Award, who
teaches at Susan B. Anthony Middle
School.

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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