

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)[View this email in your browser](#)

News from the Capitol



Sydney Carlin - 66th District Representative

Room 451-S, State Capitol
Topeka, KS 66612
785.296.7657

1650 Sunny Slope Lane
Manhattan, KS 66502
785.539.6612

2020 Legislative Update - Weeks #4 & #5

February 3 - February 14, 2020

In This Issue

- [Page Information](#)
- [First Vote of the 2020 Session](#)
- [Constitutional Amendment Fails](#)
- [Votes on the Floor](#)
- [Bills Passed](#)
- [Committee Activity](#)
 - [Appropriations](#)
 - [Ag Budget](#)
 - [Agriculture](#)
- [2020 House Democratic Agenda](#)
- [Around the Dome](#)
- [Employment Opportunities](#)
- [Keep in Touch](#)

[Page Information](#)

If you, or someone you know are interested in serving as a page for the 2020 Legislative Session, please contact [me](#). I always enjoy helping kids learn more about our government and its processes. Current dates available are: March 17th, March 25th, and April 1st. If these dates do not work with school calendars and you are interested we can attempt to book alternative dates.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

The first vote on the House Floor of the 2020 Session was taken on Monday, February 3rd. [HB 2426](#) will make technical amendments to provisions in the Code of Civil Procedure, Small Claims Procedure Act, and Code of Civil Procedure for Limited Actions to update and standardize statutory references.

[Constitutional Amendment Fails](#)

As soon as the [constitutional amendment](#) regarding abortion failed to receive the 2/3 vote required for passage in the House, Senate President, [Susan Wagle](#), announced she was pulling any bill that could be germane to Medicaid Expansion back into committee. The Senate Majority Leader, [Jim Denning](#) (R-Johnson County), responded with a tweet calling Wagle an obstructionist, accusing her of not following the legislative process.

Looking Ahead...

We hope to get past the current gridlock regarding Medicaid Expansion. Though the constitutional amendment failed in the House last week, it is fully expected to come back at some point during the session. Coming up in two weeks is Turnaround – when we begin to deal with bills the Senate sends to the House.

[Bill Passed Through the House Floor](#)

Though we are on our 5th week in session, we took our third final action vote on Monday, February 10th. [HB 2466](#), enacting the Kansas taxpayer protection act and requiring the signature and tax identification number of paid tax return preparers on income tax return, was passed 118-1 after being on the Consent Calendar for three days.

[Committee Activity](#)

[Appropriations:](#)

The House Appropriations Committee has begun reviewing the Governor's budget proposal. Two policy pieces within the proposal particularly stand out as necessary and logical for Kansans.

The first is targeted food sales tax relief. Kansas has the highest food sales tax in the nation. This policy will replace the current non-refundable food sales tax credit with a new refundable food sales tax credit. This will return \$63 million back to the people of Kansas. The other policy goal of the Governor is property tax relief. This resumes transfers from the State General Fund back to the Local Ad Valorem, returning property taxes back to local communities.

[Agriculture and Natural Resources Budget](#)

The Agriculture and Natural Resources Budget Committee reviewed the FY 2021 budgets of the Board of Accountancy, Department of Credit Unions, Office of State Bank Commissioner, and Department of Commerce. The most contentious issue was whether to move the Agricultural International Trade from the Department of Agriculture to the Department of Commerce. After discussions with Secretaries Beam and Toland, it has been recommended that the move be made.

[Agriculture](#)

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

million bushels of soybeans, 556 million bushels of wheat, 601 million bushels of corn, and 206 million bushels of sorghum in 2019. Weather and water challenges in 2019 notwithstanding these numbers are impressive. Exports average more than 50% for each crop, with markets ranging from Mexico to China, Central/Latin America, Asia, and Africa. Given the international trade challenges, it remains more important than ever that Kansans remain engaged in these debates. Each of these crop commissions do remarkable educational outreach and investments across the state. From STEM education and FFA funding, to research programs and centers at state universities, especially Kansas State, the grain commissions work hard to ensure a stable future of farming in Kansas and the United States.

Hearings on [HB 2463](#) and [HB 2464](#) were postponed to this week. [HB 2432](#) and [HB 2451](#) received hearing this week and were passed out of committee.

[House Democratic Caucus Rolls out 2020 Agenda](#)

On Thursday, the [House Democratic Caucus](#) held a press conference to roll out their 2020 policy agenda and priorities. [Minority Leader Tom Sawyer](#), spoke alongside numerous Democratic Representatives on the five policy objectives: Affordable, Quality Healthcare; Investing in Children; Supporting Workers and Families; Equal Opportunity for All; and Investing in a Sustainable Future. House Democrats have introduced many bills under each of these categories. Each of these show Democrats are working for all Kansans. You can see the full list below.

2020 Democratic Legislative Priorities and Bills

Affordable, Quality Healthcare

- [HB 2149](#) - Requiring a timely determination of KanCare eligibility
- [HB 2303](#) - Enacting the Kansas safe access act (medical marijuana)
- [HB 2459](#) - Mental Health Parity
- [HB 2557](#) - Establishing a \$100 maximum out-of-pocket cost-share for prescription insulin drugs.
- [SB 113](#) - Providing for the legal use of medical cannabis
- [SB 252](#) - Medicaid Expansion

Invest in Children

- [HB 2111](#) - Issuing requirements for the sale of firearms at gun shows or over the internet
- [HB 2129](#) - Creating the gun safety red flag act
- [HB 2187](#) - Establishing office of child advocate for child protection and service
- [HB 2216](#) - Establishing state employee student loan repayment assistance act
- [HB 2228](#) - Relating to penalties for operating a childcare facility without a license
- [HB 2264](#) - Providing a tax credit to Pell grant recipient
- [HB 2265](#) - College credit hours for passing CLEP and other college examination program
- [HB 2266](#) - Prohibiting universities from charging fees for certain scholarship applicants
- [HB 2297](#) - Exempting postsecondary institutions from concealed carry

Subscribe

Past Issues

Translate ▼

- [HB 2363](#) - Raising the age to buy tobacco to 21
- [SB 8](#) - Requiring a three-day waiting period and a background check for the purchase of a firearm

Support Workers and Families

- [HB 2017](#) – Allowing local control to pay prevailing wages
- [HB 2022](#) - Kansas working families pay raise act
- [HB 2263](#) - Prohibiting the denial of earned maternity leave
- [HB 2287](#) - Due process for terminating teachers' contracts
- [HB 2310](#) - Reducing the sales and use tax on food and food ingredients to 3.25%
- [HB 2311](#) - Eliminates sales tax entirely on food and food ingredients
- [HB 2584](#) - Allowing cities and counties to raise the minimum wage by ordinance, resolution or law
- [HB 2644](#) - Enacting the Paid Family Leave Act
- [SB 197](#) - Reducing the sales tax rate on food and food ingredients by 1%

Equal Opportunity for All

- [HB 2019](#) - Changing penalties for certain voting crimes
- [HB 2090](#) - Expanding the availability of voter registration
- [HB 2130](#) - Amending the Kansas act against discrimination to include sexual orientation and gender identity or expression
- [HB 2189](#) - Voting provisional ballot allowed when voter moves to a new county without reregistering
- [HB 2259](#) – Providing fair consideration for employment (“ban the box” bill)
- [HB 2424](#) - Police officer-involved death of a person; mandatory investigation
- [HB 2434](#) - Revoking authority to suspend driving privileges for nonpayment of fines from traffic citations
- [HB 2643](#) – Prohibiting disclosure of wages (supports equal pay)
- [HCR 5006](#) – Constitutional Amendment creating a non-partisan Redistricting Commission

Invest in a Sustainable Future

- [HB 2224](#) - Requiring fees for class I and class II injection wells and establishing the state geological survey monitoring well fund
- [HCR 5022](#) - Climate Emergency Resolution
- [HB 2640](#) – Carbon farming tax credit
- [HB 2662](#) - Energy efficiency, benchmarking, and energy reduction targets

Around the Dome

Local Visitors

Every week various groups visit the Capitol, and it's great when local people from Manhattan are among them.

Familiar faces from the Manhattan City Government and City Firefighters. Thanks for all you do for our community!



Manhattan W.E.A.L.T.H. (Water, Energy, Air, Land, Transportation, and Health) students and Gerry Snyder. They attended events on environmental and health equity issues across our state.



Jean Lee, Linda Morse, Cathy Hedge, myself, and Maurine Pruitt from the League of Women Voters-Manhattan group here to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the League. No longer fighting just for women's voting rights, but also greater openness and transparency at all levels of government. Keep up the good work ladies!

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate](#) ▼

I also had the opportunity to visit some Manhattan students and read to their classrooms.



Apparently, it was a day for half of us to close our eyes in photos!

[Employment Opportunities](#)

Attached ([here](#)) is the weekly Kansas Works Hot Jobs List for the Manhattan area. Statewide listings may be found [here](#).



[Keep In Touch](#)

It is a special honor to serve as your State Representative. I value and need your input on the various issues facing our community and the state government. Please contact me with your comments and questions.

My office address is Room 451-S, 300 SW 10th Avenue, Topeka, KS 66612.

You may reach my office at (785) 296-7657, or the legislative hotline (800) 432-3924 to leave a message.

[Email](mailto:sydney.carlin@house.ks.gov) at sydney.carlin@house.ks.gov

Please follow [my legislative activity](#) or the [entire session](#).

Thank you!

Sydney Carlin

Sydney Carlin - 66th District Representative



Subscribe

Past Issues

Translate ▼

Our mailing address is:

Sydney Carlin

Kansas House of Representatives

300 SW 10th Street

Suite 451-S

Topeka, KS 66612

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

This email was sent to kchummel1@gmail.com

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Sydney Carlin, State Representative, 66th District · 300 SW 10th Ave Ste 451-S · Topeka, KS 66612-1504 · USA

