

## News from the Capitol



### Sydney Carlin - 66th District Representative

300 SW 10th Street  
Room 451-S  
Topeka, KS 66612  
785.296.7657

1650 Sunnyslope Lane  
Manhattan, KS 66502  
785.539.6612

### 2021 Legislative Update Week #5

February 8 - February 12, 2021

#### In This Issue

- [Committee Work](#)
  - [Appropriations](#)
  - [Agriculture & Natural Resources Budget](#)
  - [Agriculture](#)
  - [SB 22](#)
  - [Final Action](#)
  - [Press Conference](#)
  - [HotJobs Listings](#)
  - [Honor Some Teens](#)
  - [Keep in Touch](#)
-

This week has been a rather busy one for us here in Topeka. We passed 22 bills out of the full House and held numerous committee meetings throughout the week.

## [Committee Work](#)

### [Appropriations](#)

The [Appropriations Committee](#) has begun our annual process of compiling the budgets for the remainder of 2021 and 2022. As Budget Committees report out their agency and departmental budgets, we review them and adjust as consensus allows. This week we reviewed over 15 such budgets and had some vigorous discussions. We also had updates on Kansas Mental Health Modernization and Reform and the Governor's proposal to combine the Kansas Department of Children and Families (DCF) and the Department of Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) into the Department of Human Services ([ERO 47](#)). We also held a hearing on [HB 2174](#) to establish the rural hospital innovation grant program.

### [Agriculture and Natural Resources Budget](#)

This week we reviewed and worked budgets including the Kansas Department of Agriculture (KDA), the Department of Commerce, the Citizens Utility Ratepayer Board (CURB), the State Fair Board, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), and the Veterinary Examiners. Each agency has been asked to report how CARES Act money was used. Many programs were continued at a reduced level rather than halted or eliminated entirely. Next week the Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism and the Water Office are on our list. Included in the Commerce budget is the Governor's executive order ([ERO 48](#)) to move the Division of Tourism to the Department of Commerce. The goal is to spur growth in tourism.

### [Agriculture](#)

The [Agriculture Committee](#) held hearings on:

- [HB 2244](#) – Updates requirements for the disposal of industrial hemp. Now that we have completed the research phase of the industrial hemp program, the authority and responsibility for inspections and supervision of disposal is being moved from the KDA to the State Fire Marshall.
  - [SB 27](#) – Extends the sunsets of funds for the storage tank act to 2034.
  - [HB 2155](#) - passed out of committee. It provides new guidance for KDHE's response operations for water and soil pollutant release.
-

Two bills from this committee were also passed by the full House, both of which were passed last year but were caught in limbo due to the Legislature's early dismissal:

- [HB 2102](#) – updates repackaging requirements for eggs sold in stores.
- [HB 2103](#) – which creates a Kansas pesticide waste disposal program, because the federal program no longer exists.

## [Around The Dome](#)

### [SB 22 - The Unaffordable](#)

This week the Senate amended and passed [SB 22](#) (24-15). This already unaffordable tax plan was made even worse. At a minimum cost of \$300 million per year, it is eerily similar to the Brownback era tax cuts. At a time when we are recovering from COVID reduced revenues and still paying back Brownback era loans to the KDOT trust fund, we simply cannot afford the giant tax giveaway to multinational corporations. Senate Republicans have lumped some proposals into this bill that I support (raising the standard deduction and eliminating taxes on Social Security benefits). But I cannot support such massive tax cuts to corporations. I hope the House can break some of these tax cuts into separate bills so each can receive thoughtful debate.

### [Final Action](#)

The House passed numerous bills this week. Some bills I supported are listed below:

[HB 2063](#) – Provides benefits to Police and Fireman spouses and children for death resulting from a service-connected disability. **(125-0)**

[HB 2075](#) – Allows more judicial venues for adoption proceedings (the courts in the child's home area can hear the case, rather than having to travel to Topeka). **(125-0)**

[SB 15](#) – Expands credit union membership and creates the Kansas economic recovery loan deposit program. **(122-1)**

[HB 2001](#) – Creates the crime of sexual extortion, which makes threatening to release revenge porn or distributing such photos/videos a crime and requires those who are convicted to register as a sex offender. **(123-0)**

---

[HB 2120](#) – Removes the spousal exception for the crime of sexual battery. **(110-13)**

### [Press Conference](#)

The Democratic Caucus held a press conference on Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> to discuss [our priorities for the remainder of the legislative session](#). You may watch it recorded, [here](#).

### [HotJobs](#)

The new Manhattan/Junction City area Hot Jobs list may be found [here](#). They are also holding state-wide virtual job fairs.



**KANSASWORKS VIRTUAL JOB FAIRS**

2020

DECEMBER - 8, 9, 10      FEBRUARY 23, 24, 25  
JANUARY 26, 27, 28      MARCH 23, 24, 25

**JOB SEEKER PRE-REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR DECEMBER 8-10:**  
<https://KansasworksVirtualJobFair.EasyVirtualFair.com>

**KANSASWORKS**  
A proud partner of the Kansas State Board of Education

### [Honor Some Teens](#)

#### **CELEBRATE TEENS IN YOUR COMMUNITY WITH \$5K**

Join the Invisalign® brand in their search for **100** deserving teens dedicated to making a difference in their communities to be recognized as Invisalign® ChangeMakers!

Each of these teens will be celebrated at a virtual event and awarded **\$5,000 cash** to fund their service projects or help support their educational or personal goals. Help us celebrate those making a difference by sharing with the teens and parents in your life!

[All teens ages 13 – 19 can apply now through March 31, 2021 by sharing how they're creating positive change in their communities, schools and world.](#)

### [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 Street, Topeka, KS 66612.

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

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

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

**Thank you!**

*Sydney Carlin*

**Sydney Carlin - 66th District Representative**



---

**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](#).