

LEGISLATIVE NEWSLETTER

ACEC Kansas

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825 S Kansas Ave, Suite 500 Topeka, KS 66612 Phone (785)357-1824 Fax(785)233-2206 e-mail scott@acecks.org

This past week marked the halfway point of the legislative session. Most bills that were not successfully passed out of their chamber of origin are now dead for the session. Combine this with the fact that the legislature has completed its work on the FY 09 budget amendments, and the second half of the session should see a higher level of concentration on a smaller number of bills.

SB 9, dealing with construction projects at state educational institutions, passed the Senate last week 40-0. After struggling to win backing from the Associated General Contractors of Kansas for some time, it looks like this legislation is now gaining momentum and will likely pass. The good news for consulting engineers is that it does NOT change the engineering statutes which require qualification based selection (QBS).

Likewise, SB 29 looks to have a strong likelihood of become law after a somewhat troubled start. This is the bill advanced by the Board of Technical Professions, adopting the model law for land surveyors. The Kansas Contractors Association and KDOT had some initial concerns, but they seem to have been ironed out.

SB 119 is also headed briskly towards passage. This bill would allow for “community improvement districts”. These are similar to transportation improvement districts, but would also allow funds to go towards vertical construction. Several municipalities have made this a priority, and there doesn’t seem to be any resistance.

Monday and Tuesday will be very slow this week, with the legislature coming back in force on Wednesday. Crafting the FY 10 budget will be the biggest task of the last half of the session. With tax revenues looking so sluggish, there are a lot of worried groups waiting to see the final product.

Stay tuned.....

Bill Number and Sponsor	Bill Subject	Current Status	Last Action
SB 9 Legislative Educational Planning Committee	State educational institutions; relating to construction improvement projects	Passed in Senate	02/18/2009 - Senate Committee of the Whole: Committee Report be adopted; be further amended; be passed as amended; Emergencied to Final Action: Passed as amended; Yeas 40, Nays 0
SB 29 Senate Federal and	State Board of Technical Professions; relating to licensure	In House Commerce and	02/05/2009 - House Referred to Commerce and Labor

State Affairs Committee		Labor	
SB 36 Senate Commerce Committee	Cities and counties; relating to the Transportation Development District Act; special assessments	In Senate Commerce	01/21/2009 - Senate Scheduled Hearing: Wednesday, 1/28/2009, 8:30 AM, Rm 545-N
Provides for the use of the transportation development district tax and allows for the termination of the tax when the project is paid off.			
SB 52 Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee	Cities and counties; relating to special benefit districts therein; relating to costs of improvements	In Senate Federal and State Affairs	01/22/2009 - Senate Referred to Federal and State Affairs
SB 64 Special Committee on Eminent Domain in Condemnation of Water Rights	Kansas Water Appropriation Act	In House Agriculture and Natural Resources	02/20/2009 - House Referred to Agriculture and Natural Resources
SB 65 Special Committee on Eminent Domain in Condemnation of Water Rights	Eminent domain; relating to water rights	In Senate Natural Resources	01/23/2009 - Senate Scheduled Hearing: Thursday, 1/29/2009, 8:30 AM, Rm 446-N
SB 78 Senate Commerce Committee	Transportation development districts	In House Taxation	02/10/2009 - House Referred to Taxation
Allows the use of transportation development district tax for projects instead of bonds.			
SB 91 Senate Local Government Committee	Planning and zoning; dealing with vesting of development rights	In House Commerce and Labor	02/13/2009 - House Referred to Commerce and Labor
SB 112 Senate Judiciary Committee	Kansas Act Against Discrimination; relating to disability	In Senate Judiciary	02/18/2009 - Senate Withdrawn from Ways and Means; rereferred to Judiciary
SB 119	Enacting the Community	In House	02/20/2009 - House

Senate Commerce Committee	Improvement District Act	Economic Development and Tourism	Referred to Economic Development and Tourism
SB 142 Senate Transportation Committee	Transportation; relating to designation of certain highway segments as safety corridors by the Secretary of Transportation; establishing the traffic safety corridor fund	Killed in Senate	02/19/2009 - Senate Committee of the Whole: Committee Report be adopted; be further amended; be passed as amended; Emergencied to Final Action: Not Passed; Yeas 18, Nays 22
SB 165 Senate Ways and Means Committee	State water plan fund; relating to increasing fees that contribute to the fund	In Senate Ways and Means	02/18/2009 - Senate Scheduled Hearing: Tuesday, 2/24/2009, 10:30 AM, Rm 545-N
SB 187 Senate Ways and Means Committee	Enacting the State Fire Marshal Commissioned Inspector Act	In House Federal and State Affairs	02/20/2009 - House Referred to Federal and State Affairs
SB 229 Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee	Employment; relating to misclassification of employees	In Senate Federal and State Affairs	02/06/2009 - Senate Referred to Federal and State Affairs
SB 257 Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee	Cities; relating to public improvements outside the city limits	In Senate Local Government	02/18/2009 - Senate Scheduled Hearing: Tuesday, 2/24/2009, 9:30 AM, Rm 446-N
SB 271 Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee	Counties; relating to bidding requirements on certain contracts	In Senate Local Government	02/13/2009 - Senate Referred to Local Government
HB 2015 House Energy and Utilities Committee	Energy efficiency; relating to standards for certain owned or leased property, equipment or vehicles	In House Energy and Utilities	01/15/2009 - House Scheduled Hearing: Thursday, 1/22/2009, 9:00 AM, Rm 783 Docking

HB 2016 House Energy and Utilities Committee	Utilities; relating to emissions	In House Energy and Utilities	01/15/2009 - House Scheduled Hearing: Thursday, 1/22/2009, 9:00 AM, Rm 783 Docking
Sub for HB 2029 Special Committee on Eminent Domain in Condemnation of Water Rights	Cities; relating to annexation	On General Orders in House	02/17/2009 - House Committee Report: Substitute be passed by Local Government
HB 2030 Special Committee on Eminent Domain in Condemnation of Water Rights	Cities; relating to annexation	In House Local Government	01/28/2009 - House Scheduled Hearing: Thursday, 2/5/2009, 3:30 PM, Rm 446-N
Sub for HB 2050 House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee	Water; relating to certain fees and disbursement thereof; concerning certain water permits	In Senate Natural Resources	02/20/2009 - Senate Referred to Natural Resources
HB 2065 Joint Committee on Administrative Rules and Regulations	Intensive Groundwater Control Areas	In House Agriculture and Natural Resources	01/23/2009 - House Referred to Agriculture and Natural Resources
HB 2083 House Local Government Committee	Historic preservation; pertaining to environs review	In House Appropriations	02/19/2009 - House Withdrawn from Local Government; referred to Appropriations
HB 2084 Vincent Wetta, D-80th	Cities; relating to annexation of territory	On General Orders in House	02/18/2009 - House Committee Report: Be passed by Local Government
HB 2178 House Appropriations Committee	Abolishing the Kansas Turnpike Authority; transferring powers, duties and functions to the Kansas Department of Transportation	In House Transportation	02/04/2009 - House Scheduled Hearing: Thursday, 2/12/2009, 1:30 PM, Rm 783 DSOB

HB 2182 House Energy and Utilities Committee	Department of Health and Environment; requiring the Kansas Air Quality Act be consistent and uniform with the Federal Clean Air Act	In House Energy and Utilities	02/04/2009 - House Scheduled Hearing: Thursday, 2/5/2009, 9:00 AM, Rm 783 DSOB
HB 2216 House Elections Committee	Contracts with state agencies	In House Elections	02/04/2009 - House Referred to Elections
HB 2222 House Government Efficiency and Fiscal Oversight Committee	State agencies; relating to the collection of licenses, fees, charges, taxes and exactions	On Final Action in House	02/19/2009 - House Committee of the Whole: Committee Report be adopted; be passed as amended
HB 2238 House Commerce and Labor Committee	Construction contracts; relating to retention in public and private construction contracts	In House Commerce and Labor	02/04/2009 - House Referred to Commerce and Labor; Scheduled Hearing: Wednesday, 2/11/2009, 9:00 AM, Rm 784 DSOB
HB 2272 House Appropriations Committee	Intensive groundwater use control areas	In House Agriculture and Natural Resources	02/06/2009 - House Scheduled Hearing: Wednesday, 2/11/2009, 3:30 PM, Rm 783 DSOB
HB 2273 House Government Efficiency and Fiscal Oversight Committee	State agencies; providing for the development and implementation of a zero-based budget process	In House Appropriations	02/05/2009 - House Referred to Appropriations
HB 2277 House Appropriations Committee	Public works projects for state agencies; prescribing payment of minimum wages for work thereon and preferences for certain employees to work thereon	In House Commerce and Labor	02/06/2009 - House Referred to Commerce and Labor
HB 2281	Employment; relating to	In House Taxation	02/06/2009 - House

House Federal and State Affairs Committee	misclassification of employees		Referred to Taxation
HB 2282 House Energy and Utilities Committee	Water districts; relating to lands annexed by cities	In House Local Government	02/18/2009 - House Withdrawn from Appropriations; rereferred to Local Government
HB 2283 House Energy and Utilities Committee	Rural water districts; relating to procedures for release of lands from a district	In House Agriculture and Natural Resources	02/18/2009 - House Withdrawn from Appropriations; rereferred to Agriculture and Natural Resources
HB 2284 House Energy and Utilities Committee	Water; relating to rural water districts; concerning transfer of certain property funds and records of such districts	In House Agriculture and Natural Resources	02/06/2009 - House Referred to Agriculture and Natural Resources
HB 2294 House Appropriations Committee	Minimum wage and maximum hours law	In House Commerce and Labor	02/06/2009 - House Referred to Commerce and Labor
HB 2309 House Federal and State Affairs Committee	Appropriation of water	In House Agriculture and Natural Resources	02/09/2009 - House Referred to Agriculture and Natural Resources
HB 2318 House Energy and Utilities Committee	Rural water districts	In House Agriculture and Natural Resources	02/09/2009 - House Referred to Agriculture and Natural Resources
HB 2326 House Taxation Committee	Transportation Development District Act; relating to creation of district; requirements	In House Taxation	02/12/2009 - House Referred to Taxation
HB 2348 House Taxation Committee	Sales taxation; relating to the imposition of tax on rendering or furnishing of services; rate of tax	In House Taxation	02/18/2009 - House Referred to Taxation
