

LEGISLATIVE NEWSLETTER

ACEC of Kansas

No. 10 – March 20, 2015

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Week 10 saw the end of most committee activity, with many bills dying at the end of the week for failure to meet legislative timelines. The legislature will come next week and work bills on the floor of both chambers on their way to first adjournment April 3.

We saw progress on our Board of Technical Professions bill this week. As we have reported in past weeks, SB 24 is an update to licensure statutes passed last year. At a hearing last week we ran into opposition from a few individual architects. We are pleased to report that the House Federal and State Affairs Committee this week passed our language, and gave us a little extra help along the way. The opponents of SB 24 had introduced legislation earlier this session that would make very detrimental changes to state licensure laws. One of those bad bills was HB 2224. The House Federal and State Affairs Committee this week amended HB 2224 (the bad bill) by stripping out all of its original content and inserting the language of SB 24 (our good bill). They then voted to pass the “new” Sub for House Bill 2224. In short, this means our language was passed, and simultaneously one of the bad bills was killed. This process is called a “gut and go”, and is not uncommon. Sub for HB 2224 will now head to the House floor for consideration.

There is another piece of good news for the Board of Technical Professions, as we were successful this week in helping protect their budget (in doing so, probably were successful in protecting our members from an increase in license fees). For many years, the state has taken 10% of the fees paid by those licensed under the Board of Technical Professions and kept it in the state general fund (this is common among state fee funds). This is to offset costs incurred by state agencies that provide services to the Board of Technical Professions. The Governor’s proposed budget would have doubled the amount that goes to the general fund from 10% to 20%. ACEC Kansas and KSPE joined forces with a coalition led by the Kansas Bankers Association this week and were able to get the budget writing committees of both the House and the Senate to repeal that language and leave the transfers at 10%.

Those budget committees, as part of their deliberations, left the Governor’s proposed transfer of \$100 million per year from the highway fund for fiscal years 16 and 17. While this is a tough pill to swallow, there is a broad feeling that we may have dodged a bullet (for the moment) by avoiding amendments to increase that amount. There is still a long stretch ahead where those numbers will be in play and those funds will be at risk.

We have reported on House Bills 2177 (Kansas Voluntary Cleanup Fund), 2192 (creating environmental steward fund), and 2193 (creating a risk management program under the Kansas Voluntary Cleanup Fund) in recent weeks. ACEC Kansas has testified in support of 2177 and 2192. The Senate Natural Resources Committee this week amended the language from HB 2177 into HB 2193, combing the language of both bills into one piece of legislation. They then passed HB 2192 and HB 2193, which will head to the full Senate for consideration.

There were hearings in both chambers this week on legislation that would repeal the state’s renewable portfolio standards. This was an extremely contentious fight last year, and continues to look like an issue with a very close split in the legislature. The bills have not been voted on in committee yet in either chamber.

Stay tuned.....

Bill Number and Sponsor	Bill Subject	Current Status	Last Action
H Sub for SB 4	Appropriation revisions and supplementals	Approved by Governor	02/10/2015

Legislative Post Audit Committee	for FY 2015 and FY 2016 for various state agencies		Approved by Governor Sam Brownback
H Sub for SB 7 Legislative Post Audit Committee	Creating the classroom learning assuring student success act; making and concerning appropriations for fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, June 30, 2016, and June 30, 2017, for the department of education	Pending enrollment	03/16/2015 - Senate Concurred; Yeas 25, Nays 14
SB 24 Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee	Technical professions act; definitions clarification	In House Federal and State Affairs	03/04/2015 - House Scheduled Hearing in Federal and State Affairs: Tuesday, 3/10, 9:00 AM, Rm 346-S
SB 29 Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee	Removal of community improvement district sales tax administration fund aggregate cap	In House Taxation	03/04/2015 - House Referred to Taxation
SB 35 Senate Ways and Means Committee	Appropriation revisions for FY 2015, FY 2016, FY 2017, and FY 2018 for various state agencies	In Senate Ways and Means	01/20/2015 - Senate Scheduled Hearing in Ways and Means: Thursday, 1/22/2015, 10:30 AM, Rm 548-S
SB 36 Senate Natural Resources Committee	Allowing carryover and a change application for place of use for multi-year flex accounts	In House Agriculture and Natural Resources	03/09/2015 - House Scheduled Hearing in Agriculture and Natural Resources: Thursday, 3/12, 3:30 PM, Rm 346-S
SB 52 Senate Natural Resources Committee	Authorizing chief engineer to allow augmentation to secure water	On General Orders in House	03/18/2015 - House Committee Report recommending bill be passed as amended by Agriculture and Natural Resources
SB 64 Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee	Public water supply storage; interest rate change	On General Orders in Senate	02/12/2015 - Senate Committee Report recommending bill be passed as amended by Natural Resources
SB 80 Anthony Hensley, D-19th	Enacting the Kansas working families pay raise act	In Senate Commerce	01/27/2015 - Senate Referred to Commerce
SB 81 Senate Ways and Means Committee	Appropriation revisions and supplementals for FY 2015 and FY 2016 for various state agencies	In Senate Ways and Means	01/28/2015 - Senate Scheduled Hearing in Ways and Means: Wednesday, 1/28/2015, 10:30 AM, Rm 548-S
SB 107 Senate Commerce Committee	Public entities expenditures for energy projects intended to reduce energy costs	In Senate Commerce	02/11/2015 - Senate Scheduled Hearing in Commerce: Tuesday, 2/17,

			8:30 AM, Rm 548-S
SB 118 Senate Natural Resources Committee	Amending the powers and duties of the Kansas department of agriculture division of conservation and the state conservation commission	In Senate Natural Resources	02/02/2015 - Senate Scheduled Hearing in Natural Resources: Thursday, 2/5/2015, 8:30 AM, Rm 159-S
SB 124 Senate Natural Resources Committee	Eliminating the sunset on landspreading of oil and gas drilling waste	On General Orders in House	03/18/2015 - House Committee Report recommending bill be passed as amended by Agriculture and Natural Resources
SB 138 Senate Ways and Means Committee	Prohibiting the secretary of health and environment from adopting rules and regulations relating to confined feeding facilities that are more restrictive than federal law	In Senate Natural Resources	02/04/2015 - Senate Referred to Natural Resources
SB 209 Anthony Hensley, D-19th	Repealing the prohibition against agencies and municipalities requiring contractors to enter into certain labor agreements for public works construction projects	In Senate Commerce	02/12/2015 - Senate Referred to Commerce
SB 210 Anthony Hensley, D-19th	Requiring employment of Kansas workers for certain state contracts and tax incentives	In Senate Commerce	02/12/2015 - Senate Referred to Commerce
SB 211 Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee	Technical professions; scope of practice	In Senate Federal and State Affairs	02/12/2015 - Senate Referred to Federal and State Affairs
SB 227 Senate Natural Resources Committee	Local enhanced management areas; due consideration; corrective control measures	In House Agriculture and Natural Resources	03/16/2015 - House Scheduled Hearing in Agriculture and Natural Resources: Monday, 3/16, 3:30 PM, Rm 346-S
SB 245 Senate Ways and Means Committee	Repealer; certain bridge inspections	On General Orders in Senate	03/18/2015 - Senate Committee Report recommending bill be passed by Transportation
SB 246 Senate Ways and Means Committee	Exempting certain state leases from energy audit requirements when such energy audit is not economically feasible	On Final Action in Senate	03/18/2015 - Senate Committee of the Whole: Committee Report be adopted; be passed as amended
SB 250 Senate Ways and Means Committee	Joint committee on state building construction; reports of the secretary of administration	In Senate Ways and Means	02/19/2015 - Senate Scheduled Hearing in Ways and Means: Monday, 2/23, 10:30 AM, Rm 548-S

SB 253 Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee	Renewable energy standards act sunset	In Senate Utilities	03/04/2015 - Senate Scheduled Hearing in Utilities: Tuesday, 3/10, 1:30 PM, Rm 548-S
SB 268 Senate Ways and Means Committee	Changes to stream maintenance and obstruction requirements	In Senate Natural Resources	03/17/2015 - Senate Scheduled Hearing in Natural Resources: Thursday, 3/19, 8:30 AM, Rm 159-S
SB 275 Senate Ways and Means Committee	Establishing water conservation areas	In Senate Natural Resources	03/11/2015 - Senate Scheduled Hearing in Natural Resources: Wednesday, 3/18, 8:30 AM, Rm 159-S
HB 2003 Michael Houser, R-1st	Cities; annexation of non-adjoining land	In Senate Local Government	02/12/2015 - Senate Scheduled Hearing and Possible Action in Local Government: Tuesday, 2/17, 9:30 AM, Rm 159-S
HB 2012 Jim Ward, D-86th	Enacting the Kansas working families pay raise act	In House Appropriations	01/13/2015 - House Referred to Appropriations
HB 2014 Tom Sloan, R-45th	Authorizing the Kansas water office, with approval of the Kansas water authority, to establish the clean drinking water fee by rules and regulations and imposing a cap on such fee	In House Agriculture and Natural Resources Budget	02/13/2015 - House Scheduled Hearing in Agriculture and Natural Resources Budget: Thursday, 2/19, 1:30 PM, Rm 142-S
HB 2015 Joint Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice Oversight	Juvenile offenders; prohibiting placement in a juvenile correctional facility for a current misdemeanor adjudication	In House Appropriations	02/20/2015 - House Withdrawn from Corrections and Juvenile Justice; referred to Appropriations
HB 2015 Joint Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice Oversight	Juvenile offenders; prohibiting placement in a juvenile correctional facility for a current misdemeanor adjudication	In House Appropriations	02/20/2015 - House Withdrawn from Corrections and Juvenile Justice; referred to Appropriations
HB 2019 House Vision 2020 Committee	Property tax levy for the Kansas educational building fund	In House Taxation	01/28/2015 - House Scheduled Hearing in Taxation: Wednesday, 2/4/2015, 3:30 PM, Rm 582-N
HB 2023 House Judiciary Committee	Legislative review of exceptions to disclosure of public records	On General Orders in Senate Above the Line in Senate	03/11/2015 - Senate Committee Report recommending bill be passed by Judiciary
HB 2035 House Education	Amending the tax credit for low income students scholarship program act	In House Education	01/20/2015 - House Referred to Education

Committee			
HB 2036 House Vision 2020 Committee	Electricity and the sale of renewable energy	In House Energy and Environment	01/20/2015 - House Referred to Energy and Environment
HB 2037 House Vision 2020 Committee	Renewable energy generation and tax exempt entities	In House Energy and Environment	01/20/2015 - House Referred to Energy and Environment
HB 2038 House Appropriations Committee	Appropriation revisions for FY 2015, FY 2016, FY 2017, and FY 2018 for various state agencies	In House Appropriations	01/20/2015 - House Scheduled Hearing in Appropriations: Wednesday, 1/21/2015, 9:00 AM, Rm 112-N
HB 2039 House Judiciary Committee	Domestic case management	In House Judiciary	01/21/2015 - House Scheduled Hearing in Judiciary: Wednesday, 1/28/2015, 3:30 PM, Rm 112-N
HB 2059 House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee	Authorizing chief engineer to allow augmentation to secure water	In Senate Natural Resources	03/09/2015 - Senate Scheduled Hearing in Natural Resources: Thursday, 3/12, 8:30 AM, Rm 159-S
HB 2063 House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee	Amending the definition of project in the public water supply project loan program	In Senate Natural Resources	03/11/2015 - Senate Scheduled Hearing in Natural Resources: Thursday, 3/19, 8:30 AM, Rm 159-S
HB 2068 House Transportation Committee	Removing requirement that bicycles use path	In House Transportation	01/28/2015 - House Scheduled Hearing in Transportation: Thursday, 2/5/2015, 1:30 PM, Rm 582-N
HB 2069 House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee	Allowing carryover and a change application for place of use for multi-year flex accounts	Stricken from House calendar	03/04/2015 - House Stricken from Calendar, House Rule 1507
HB 2085 House Appropriations Committee	Contracts between the secretary of transportation and the Kansas Turnpike Authority; annual reports from the authority; director of operations	On General Orders in Senate Above the Line in Senate	03/17/2015 - Senate Committee Report recommending bill be passed by Ways and Means
HB 2133 House Appropriations Committee	Appropriation revisions and supplementals for FY 2015 and FY 2016 for various state agencies	In House Appropriations	01/29/2015 - House Scheduled Discussion and Possible Action in Appropriations: Monday, 2/2/2015, 9:00 AM, Rm 112-

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HB 2153 House Appropriations Committee	Taxpayer empowerment, accountability and transparency in state contracting act	In House Appropriations	01/29/2015 - House Referred to Appropriations
HB 2156 House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee	Public water supply storage; interest rate change	In Senate Natural Resources	02/25/2015 - Senate Scheduled Hearing in Natural Resources: Wednesday, 3/4, 8:30 AM, Rm 159-S
HB 2177 House Energy and Environment Committee	Voluntary cleanup and property redevelopment act	In Senate Natural Resources	03/09/2015 - Senate Scheduled Hearing in Natural Resources: Wednesday, 3/11, 8:30 AM, Rm 159-S
HB 2192 House Energy and Environment Committee	Kansas storage tank act	On General Orders in Senate	03/18/2015 - Senate Committee Report recommending bill be passed by Natural Resources
HB 2193 House Energy and Environment Committee	Solid and hazardous waste and the risk management program act	In Senate Natural Resources	03/11/2015 - Senate Scheduled Hearing in Natural Resources: Thursday, 3/12, 8:30 AM, Rm 159-S
HB 2194 House Transportation Committee	Establishing a safety corridor program	In House Transportation	02/04/2015 - House Scheduled Hearing in Transportation: Thursday, 2/12/2015, 1:30 PM, Rm 582-N
Sub for HB 2224 House Federal and State Affairs Committee	Technical professions act; definitions clarification	On General Orders in House	03/17/2015 - House Committee Report recommending substitute be passed by Federal and State Affairs
HB 2227 House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee	Creating water conservation areas	In House Agriculture and Natural Resources	02/05/2015 - House Scheduled Hearing in Agriculture and Natural Resources: Thursday, 2/12/2015, 3:30 PM, Rm 346-S
HB 2233 House Energy and Environment Committee	Electric utilities and carbon dioxide emissions	In House Energy and Environment	03/12/2015 - House Withdrawn from Appropriations; rereferred to Energy and Environment
HB 2245 House Federal and State	Amending procedure for cases involving groundwater	In House Agriculture and	02/06/2015 - House Referred to Agriculture and

Affairs Committee		Natural Resources	Natural Resources
HB 2255 House Transportation Committee	Prohibiting the secretary of transportation from entering agreements or issuing bonds after December 31, 2014, for the transportation revolving fund and the communication systems revolving fund; repealing the intermodal transportation revolving fund	In House Transportation	02/11/2015 - House Scheduled Hearing in Transportation: Tuesday, 2/17, 1:30 PM, Rm 582-N
HB 2267 House Appropriations Committee	Alternative project delivery; notice requirements and selection procedures	On General Orders in Senate Above the Line in Senate	03/17/2015 - Senate Committee Report recommending bill be passed by Commerce
HB 2296 House Federal and State Affairs Committee	Cities and counties; public building commission; revenue bonds; election required	On General Orders in House	03/13/2015 - House Committee Report recommending bill be passed as amended by Local Government
HB 2303 House Appropriations Committee	Allowing the secretary of health and environment to establish variances to water quality standards	In House Agriculture and Natural Resources	03/05/2015 - House Scheduled Hearing in Agriculture and Natural Resources: Wednesday, 3/11, 3:30 PM, Rm 346-S
HB 2314 Tom Burroughs, D-33rd	Repealing the prohibition against agencies and municipalities requiring contractors to enter into certain labor agreements for public works construction projects	In House Commerce, Labor and Economic Development	02/12/2015 - House Referred to Commerce, Labor and Economic Development
HB 2317 Brandon Whipple, D-96th	Requiring employment of Kansas workers for certain state contracts and tax incentives	In House Taxation	02/13/2015 - House Withdrawn from Commerce, Labor and Economic Development; referred to Taxation
HB 2351 House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee	Allowing conservation districts to sponsor local enhanced management areas	In House Agriculture and Natural Resources	03/05/2015 - House Withdrawn from Appropriations; rereferred to Agriculture and Natural Resources
HB 2373 House Taxation Committee	Renewable energy standards act sunset	In House Energy and Environment	03/13/2015 - House Scheduled Final Action in Energy and Environment: Wednesday, 3/18, 9:00 AM, Rm 582-N (CANCELED)
HB 2395 House Appropriations Committee	State building projects; negotiating committees; alternative procurement	On General Orders in House	03/12/2015 - House Committee Report recommending bill be passed as amended by Commerce, Labor and Economic Development

HB 2407 House Federal and State Affairs Committee	State infrastructure projects; allowing for public private agreements	In House Federal and State Affairs	03/12/2015 - House Referred to Federal and State Affairs
HB 2414 House Federal and State Affairs Committee	Department of health and environment and economic impact reports for state implementation plans	In House Energy and Environment	03/18/2015 - House Referred to Energy and Environment
HCR 5011 House Education Budget Committee	Foresight 2020 strategic plan	In Senate Education	02/03/2015 - House Referred to Education