

LEGISLATIVE NEWSLETTER

ACEC of Kansas

No. 5 – February 13, 2015

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Week 5 saw a high amount of both committee action and new bills. Mid to late February is typically the busiest time of year at the Capitol as deadlines draw near for bills to be passed in their chamber of origin or be dead for the session.

Perhaps the biggest news came Thursday in the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation/Public Safety, which voted to reverse proposed sweeps from the T-Works fund for the next two fiscal years. Governor Brownback's budget, as proposed, includes a transfer of \$140 million in both fiscal year 2016 and 2017. The Committee action eliminates that sweep and leaves the \$140 million in the T-Works program. While this is a promising development, it is almost certain to be undone to a large degree as the budget moves forward. It will be considered next by the full House Appropriations Committee, which will be faced with the tough question of finding a replacement for that \$140 million per fiscal year to help balance the budget.

KDOT is also pushing for an increase in its bonding authority. This increase may or may not be necessary depending on the fate of the \$140 million per fiscal year that was restored Thursday.

SB 4, the rescission bill for the current fiscal year which includes a sweep of over \$150 from transportation, was signed into law by the Governor this week.

ACEC Kansas leadership met with Governor Brownback and KDOT Secretary Mike King this week to reaffirm the importance to our member firms of a robust transportation fund and to begin a strategic conversation on what transportation funding will need to look like in the long term.

ACEC Kansas testified this week in support of HB 2177, amending the Voluntary Cleanup Program under KDHE. ACEC Kansas will also testify in favor of HB 2192 Monday in the House Energy and Environment Committee. HB 2192 deals with the Kansas Storage Tank Act. Both of these bills are part of a KDHE plan to which ACEC has been a partner through the summer and fall.

SB 24, our bill updating certain statutes governing the Board of Technical Professions, is sitting on the Senate calendar waiting for action by that body. There is a decent chance it will come up for a debate and possible vote next week. In the meantime, two bad bills impacting that same group of Board of Technical Professions statutes have been introduced but are sitting idle in committee at the moment. Those bills are SB 211 and HB 2224.

HB 2255 will have a hearing in House Transportation Tuesday. That bill appears to eliminate the ability of local units of government to use KDOT for bonding authority. It will be interesting to see if there is pushback from local communities on this legislation.

There is a bad piece of legislation that comes up almost annually in recent years which would require state contracts for over \$100,000 to be awarded to and performed by only companies that will commit to having 70% of the people working on that project be Kansas residents. We have detailed the negative implications of this bill multiple times in past years. Compliance costs, inefficiencies from not being able to share work amongst offices, repercussions from neighboring states, etc. We saw those bills reintroduced this week in SB 210 and HB 2317.

There are no hearings scheduled on these bills yet, but ACEC Kansas will make it a priority to kill these bills if they show any sign of life.

The next two weeks will produce an intense level of activity. Stay tuned....

Bill Number and Sponsor	Bill Subject	Current Status	Last Action
H Sub for SB 4 Legislative Post Audit Committee	Appropriation revisions and supplementals for FY 2015 and FY 2016 for various state agencies	Approved by Governor	02/10/2015 Approved by Governor Sam Brownback
SB 24 Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee	Technical professions act; definitions clarification	On General Orders in Senate	02/10/2015 - Senate Committee Report recommending bill be passed by Federal and State Affairs
SB 29 Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee	Removal of community improvement district sales tax administration fund aggregate cap	On General Orders in Senate	01/28/2015 - Senate Committee Report recommending bill be passed by Assessment and 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	On General Orders in Senate	02/04/2015 - Senate Committee Report recommending bill be passed by Natural Resources
SB 52 Senate Natural Resources Committee	Authorizing chief engineer to allow augmentation to secure water	On General Orders in Senate	02/05/2015 - Senate Committee Report recommending bill be passed as amended by 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	Public entities expenditures for energy projects	In Senate Commerce	02/11/2015 - Senate

Senate Commerce Committee	intended to reduce energy costs		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	In Senate Natural Resources	02/04/2015 - Senate Scheduled Hearing in Natural Resources: Wednesday, 2/11/2015, 8:30 AM, Rm 159-S
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	02/11/2015 - Senate Scheduled Hearing in Natural Resources: Wednesday, 2/18, 8:30 AM, Rm 159-S
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
HB 2003 Michael Houser, R-1st	Cities; annexation of non-adjointing land	In Senate Local Government	02/06/2015 - Senate Referred to Local Government
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	01/20/2015 - House Withdrawn from Agriculture and Natural Resources; referred to Agriculture and Natural Resources Budget
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	In Senate Judiciary	02/04/2015 - Senate Referred to Judiciary
HB 2035	Amending the tax credit for low income students	In House Education	01/20/2015 - House

House Education Committee	scholarship program act		Referred to Education
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 House Agriculture and Natural Resources	02/11/2015 - House Scheduled Discussion and Possible Action in Agriculture and Natural Resources: Monday, 2/16, 3:30 PM, Rm 346-S
HB 2063 House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee	Amending the definition of project in the public water supply project loan program	On General Orders in House	02/11/2015 - House Committee Report recommending bill be passed as amended by Agriculture and Natural Resources
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	In House Agriculture and Natural Resources	02/11/2015 - House Scheduled Discussion and Possible Action in Agriculture and Natural Resources: Monday, 2/16, 3:30 PM, Rm 346-S
HB 2085 House Appropriations Committee	Contracts between the secretary of transportation and the Kansas Turnpike Authority; annual reports from the authority; director of operations	In House Transportation	01/28/2015 - House Scheduled Hearing in Transportation: Thursday, 2/5/2015, 1:30 PM, Rm 582-N
HB 2133 House Appropriations	Appropriation revisions and supplementals for FY 2015 and FY 2016 for various state agencies	In House Appropriations	01/29/2015 - House Scheduled Discussion and

Committee			Possible Action in Appropriations: Monday, 2/2/2015, 9:00 AM, Rm 112-N
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 House Agriculture and Natural Resources	02/10/2015 - House Scheduled Discussion and Possible Action in Agriculture and Natural Resources: Thursday, 2/12, 3:30 PM, Rm 346-S
HB 2177 House Energy and Environment Committee	Voluntary cleanup and property redevelopment act	In House Local Government	02/04/2015 - House Scheduled Hearing in Local Government: Tuesday, 2/10/2015, 1:30 PM, Rm 281-N
HB 2192 House Energy and Environment Committee	Kansas storage tank act	In House Energy and Environment	02/11/2015 - House Scheduled Hearing in Energy and Environment: Monday, 2/16, 9:00 AM, Rm 582-N
HB 2193 House Energy and Environment Committee	Solid and hazardous waste and the risk management program act	In House Energy and Environment	02/11/2015 - House Scheduled Hearing in Energy and Environment: Monday, 2/16, 9:00 AM, Rm 582-N
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
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
HB 2224 House Federal and State Affairs Committee	Scope of practice for technical professions	In House Federal and State Affairs	02/05/2015 - House Referred to Federal and State Affairs
HB 2227 House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee	Creating water conservation areas	In House Agriculture and Natural Resources	02/11/2015 - House Scheduled Discussion and Possible Action in Agriculture and Natural Resources: Monday, 2/16, 3:30 PM, Rm 346-S
HB 2233	Electric utilities and carbon dioxide emissions	In House Energy and	02/11/2015 - House

House Energy and Environment Committee		Environment	Scheduled Hearing in Energy and Environment: Wednesday, 2/18, 9:00 AM, Rm 582-N
HB 2245 House Federal and State Affairs Committee	Amending procedure for cases involving groundwater	In House Agriculture and Natural Resources	02/06/2015 - House Referred to Agriculture and 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	In House Commerce, Labor and Economic Development	02/11/2015 - House Scheduled Hearing in Commerce, Labor and Economic Development: Wednesday, 2/18, 1:30 PM, Rm 346-S
HB 2296 House Federal and State Affairs Committee	Cities and counties; public building commission; revenue bonds; election required	In House Local Government	02/11/2015 - House Referred to Local Government
HB 2299 House Appropriations Committee	Directing the secretary of labor to submit a statewide plan for state enforcement of OSHA standards	In House Commerce, Labor and Economic Development	02/12/2015 - House Referred to Commerce, Labor and Economic Development
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	02/12/2015 - House Referred to Agriculture and Natural Resources
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 Commerce, Labor and Economic Development	02/12/2015 - House Referred to Commerce, Labor and Economic Development
Bill Number and Sponsor	Bill Subject	Current Status	Last Action
HCR 5011 House Education Budget Committee	Foresight 2020 strategic plan	In Senate Education	02/03/2015 - House Referred to Education