

LEGISLATIVE NEWSLETTER

ACEC of Kansas

No. 8 March 4, 2016

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

The legislature returned Wednesday for a very abbreviated week. They met Wednesday and Thursday and headed for home after they adjourned Thursday. When they return, they will have exactly three weeks to finish working legislation before they go on first adjournment.

The only substantive action for ACEC this week was our long awaited opportunity to testify on the recommendations in the Alvarez & Marsal (A&M) study to do away with the state QBS law and add 20 additional design engineers at KDOT under the auspice that they will perform work cheaper and more efficiently than the private sector. The House Transportation & Public Safety Budget Committee took testimony Wednesday afternoon. We expressed our strong opposition to these specific recommendations. While the Committee took no formal vote, it felt like we had a pretty good day in court. We received several good questions from Committee members, many of which seemed to show an understanding of the policy points we presented.

Two things happen next:

First, Representative J.R. Claeys, who is Chairman of the Committee that heard our testimony, will write (with input from his committee) a recommendation on the eight proposals from the A&M study reviewed by his Committee. We are working hard to ensure the two proposals above are *not* included in that recommendation.

Second, on the Senate side we will have our opportunity to testify before the Senate Transportation Committee on these two recommendations on March 15.

The following stakeholder groups joined us in submitting testimony opposing the anti-QBS recommendation, and many of these groups also joined us in opposing the additional 20 in-house engineering positions at KDOT:

Kansas Society of Professional Engineers
National Society of Professional Engineers
American Society of Civil Engineers
The Kansas Chamber
AIA Kansas
The Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce
Overland Park Chamber of Commerce
Kansas Economic Progress Council
Lenexa Chamber of Commerce

If any groups submitting testimony were inadvertently left off this list, it is unintentional and their efforts are appreciated as well!

In addition, KDOT did a fantastic job with their testimony. While they did not formally oppose these two recommendations, they certainly didn't say anything that damaged our position. Their professional comments are helpful and appreciated.

The pace will pick up dramatically when they return Monday. Stay tuned...

Bill Number and Sponsor	Bill Subject	Current Status	Last Action
H Sub for SB 29 Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee	Concerning taxation; relating to income tax, rates, itemized deductions, credits, income modifications and rural opportunity zones; tax amnesty; sales and compensating use tax, rates, food and distribution thereof; sales tax authority for Bourbon, Douglas and Thomas counties; cigarettes, rates; property taxation, consolidated fire districts	On General Orders in House	05/28/2015 - House Not subject to limitations of Joint Rule 4(k); Motion to emergency to Final Action, amendment and debate, failed
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 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
H Sub for SB 161 Senate Ways and Means Committee	Appropriation revisions for FY 2016, FY 2017 and FY 2018 for various state agencies	Pending approval by Governor	02/23/2016 - Senate Enrolled and presented to the Governor
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 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	In House Transportation	03/31/2015 - House Referred to Transportation
SB 246 Senate Ways and Means Committee	Exempting certain state leases from energy audit requirements when such energy audit is not economically feasible	In House Energy and Environment	01/20/2016 - House Scheduled Hearing in Energy and Environment: Wednesday, 1/27, 9:00 AM, Rm 582-N
SB 250	Joint committee on state building construction;	Pending approval by	02/24/2016 - Senate

Senate Ways and Means Committee	reports of the secretary of administration	Governor	Enrolled and presented to the Governor
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
SB 316 Jacob LaTurner, R-13th	Property tax lid; effective date; exemptions	In Senate Assessment and Taxation	03/02/2016 - Senate Scheduled Hearings in Assessment and Taxation: Pro - Tuesday, 3/8; Opp - Wednesday, 3/9, 9:30 AM, Rm 548-S
SB 322 Senate Ways and Means Committee	Creating application requirement and fee to appropriate surface water that otherwise leaves the state	In Senate Natural Resources	02/01/2016 - Senate Scheduled Discussion and Possible Action in Natural Resources: Thursday, 2/4, 8:30 AM, Rm 159-S
SB 329 Senate Natural Resources Committee	Clarifying approval of a change application for place of use for multi-year flex accounts	In House Agriculture and Natural Resources	03/02/2016 - House Scheduled Hearing in Agriculture and Natural Resources: Wednesday, 3/9, 3:30 PM, Rm 346-S
SB 330 Senate Natural Resources Committee	Establishing the Kansas conservation reserve enhancement program	In House Agriculture and Natural Resources	03/03/2016 - House Referred to Agriculture and Natural Resources
SB 337 Senate Natural Resources Committee	Creating a penalty for failure to report annual water use	In House Agriculture and Natural Resources	03/02/2016 - House Scheduled Hearing and Possible Action in Agriculture and Natural Resources: Monday, 3/7, 3:30 PM, Rm 346-S
SB 365 Senate Commerce Committee	Enacting the contaminated property redevelopment act	In House Commerce, Labor and Economic Development	03/03/2016 - House Referred to Commerce, Labor and Economic Development
SB 365 Senate Commerce Committee	Enacting the contaminated property redevelopment act	In House Commerce, Labor and Economic Development	03/03/2016 - House Referred to Commerce, Labor and Economic Development
SB 394 Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee	Enacting the supporting families act, relating to temporary care for children	In Senate Judiciary	02/05/2016 - Senate Scheduled Hearing in Judiciary: Thursday, 2/11, 10:30 AM, Rm 346-S

SB 396 Senate Judiciary Committee	Kansas sunset law	In Senate Ways and Means	02/03/2016 - Senate Referred to Ways and Means
SB 411 Senate Utilities Committee	Utilities and electric transmission lines	In Senate Utilities	02/05/2016 - Senate Referred to Utilities
SB 412 Senate Utilities Committee	Water district No. 1 of Johnson County and purposes of property easement	In House Utilities and Telecommunications	03/03/2016 - House Referred to Utilities and Telecommunications
SB 416 Senate Utilities Committee	Vehicle tire tax and abolishing the solid waste grants advisory committee	In Senate Utilities	02/09/2016 - Senate Referred to Utilities
SB 417 Senate Utilities Committee	Concerning utilities and the department of health and environment	In Senate Utilities	02/09/2016 - Senate Referred to Utilities
SB 459 Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee	Fire extinguisher inspections; fireworks manufacturers, distributors and display operations; license fees eliminated	On General Orders in Senate	03/03/2016 - Senate Committee Report recommending bill be passed as amended by Federal and State Affairs
SB 463 Senate Ways and Means Committee	Abolishing the expanded lottery act revenues fund, the Kansas endowment for youth fund, the children's initiative fund, the state economic development initiatives fund, and the state water plan fund; all revenues into such funds go into the state general fund; duties of Kansas children's cabinet	In Senate Ways and Means	03/02/2016 - Senate Scheduled Hearing in Ways and Means: Tuesday, 3/8, 10:30 AM, Rm 548-S
SB 475 Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee	Requiring performance and payment bonds for certain public construction contracts	In Senate Ways and Means	02/22/2016 - Senate Referred to Ways and Means
SCR 1608 Senate Transportation Committee	Constitutional amendment limiting transfers from the state highway fund	In Senate Ways and Means	02/03/2016 - Senate Referred to Ways and Means
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 2035 House Education Committee	Amending the tax credit for low income students scholarship program act	In House Education	01/20/2015 - House 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 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 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
S Sub for HB 2177 House Energy and Environment Committee	Wildlife, parks and tourism; relating to licenses, permits and stamps; citations; disposal of seized wildlife; boating; safety education courses; certain sailboats	In Conference Committee	06/05/2015 - House Not subject to limitations of Joint Rule 4(k); Acceded; appointed Kleeb, Suellentrop and Sawyer
HB 2245 House Federal and State Affairs Committee	Amending procedure for cases involving groundwater	In House Agriculture and Natural Resources	02/10/2016 - House Scheduled Hearing in Agriculture and Natural Resources: Wednesday, 2/17, 3:30 PM, Rm 346-S
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 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 2314 Tom Burroughs, D-33rd	Repealing the prohibition against agencies and municipalities requiring contractors to enter into certain labor agreements for public works	In House Commerce, Labor and Economic Development	02/12/2015 - House Referred to Commerce, Labor and Economic Development

	construction projects		
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 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
HB 2416 House Appropriations Committee	KPERS; definition of compensation for purposes of computing final average salary	In House Calendar and Printing	03/31/2015 - House Withdrawn from Commerce, Labor and Economic Development; referred to Calendar and Printing
HB 2481 House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee	Clarifying approval of a change application for place of use for multi-year flex accounts	In House Agriculture and Natural Resources	01/20/2016 - House Referred to Agriculture and Natural Resources
HB 2486 House Education Committee	Creating the school district bond project review board	In House Education	03/02/2016 - House Scheduled Discussion and Possible Action in Education: Tuesday, 3/8, 1:30 PM, Rm 112-N
Bill Number and Sponsor	Bill Subject	Current Status	Last Action
HB 2493 House Taxation Committee	Removing requirements that certain city and county budget increases be approved by a local vote	In House Taxation	01/21/2016 - House Referred to Taxation
HB 2510 House Vision 2020 Committee	Amendments to the state water plan	In House Agriculture and Natural Resources	01/27/2016 - House Withdrawn from Agriculture and Natural Resources and Vision 2020; referred to Agriculture and Natural Resources
HB 2519 House Transportation Committee	Approved uses from the state highway fund by the department of transportation	In House Appropriations	01/26/2016 - House Referred to Appropriations

HB 2528 House Transportation Committee	Increasing motor fuels tax by \$.05	In House Taxation	01/27/2016 - House Referred to Taxation
HB 2559 House Appropriations Committee	State agencies; minimum staffing levels; reports	In House Appropriations	01/28/2016 - House Referred to Appropriations
HB 2569 House Vision 2020 Committee	Adjustments to the property tax levy for the Kansas educational building fund	In House Vision 2020	02/03/2016 - House Scheduled Hearing in Vision 2020: Wednesday, 2/10, 9:00 AM, Rm 218-N
HB 2574 House Commerce, Labor and Economic Development Committee	Requiring employment of Kansas workers for certain state contracts and tax benefits	In House Commerce, Labor and Economic Development	01/29/2016 - House Referred to Commerce, Labor and Economic Development
HB 2598 Kevin Jones, R-5th	Limiting powers of rural water districts	In House Agriculture and Natural Resources	03/02/2016 - House Withdrawn from Appropriations; rereferred to Agriculture and Natural Resources
HB 2609 House Taxation Committee	Approval of budgets by taxing subdivisions; resolution and election requirements	In House Taxation	03/02/2016 - House Scheduled Hearings in Taxation: Pro - Wednesday, 3/9; Opp - Thursday, 3/10, 3:30 PM, Rm 582-N
HB 2623 House Energy and Environment Committee	Utilities and electric transmission lines	In House Energy and Environment	02/05/2016 - House Scheduled Hearing in Energy and Environment: Friday, 2/12, 9:00 AM, Rm 582-N
HB 2625 House Taxation Committee	Amending various STAR bond provisions and creating a new type of district and new administrative funds; amending the definition of eligible area for TIF districts	In House Taxation	02/08/2016 - House Referred to Taxation
HB 2649 House Energy and Environment Committee	Municipalities and assessments for energy efficiency improvements	In House Insurance and Financial Institutions	03/02/2016 - House Withdrawn from Appropriations; rereferred to Insurance and Financial Institutions
HB 2657 J. R. Claeys, R-69th	Requiring private water utilities to maintain water quality maintenance funds	In House Utilities and Telecommunications	02/10/2016 - House Referred to Utilities and Telecommunications
HB 2660 House Judiciary Committee	Fee agencies, moneys transferred to the state general fund or special revenue fund; notification to persons paying fees that moneys have been transferred	In House General Government Budget	03/02/2016 - House Withdrawn from Appropriations; rereferred to General Government Budget

HB 2700 House Taxation Committee	Requiring certification by retirants that they have not entered into a prearranged agreement of employment prior to retirement and providing penalties for violations thereof	In House Pensions and Benefits	02/16/2016 - House Scheduled Hearing in Pensions and Benefits: Wednesday, 2/17, 9:00 AM, Rm 152-S
HCR 5011 House Education Budget Committee	Foresight 2020 strategic plan	In House Education	02/03/2015 - House Referred to Education