

LEGISLATIVE NEWSLETTER

ACEC of Kansas

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Another busy week in Topeka moves the 2019 Legislative Session further down the road. Dozens of bills were introduced in the last few days equating to over 300 active bills in the Senate and House. Committee activity continues to intensify as they hold hearings and recommend bills for consideration by their full chamber.

The Senate made headlines as it debated and passed a major tax bill (SB 22) relating to the federal tax windfall. SB 22, which is intended to prevent unintentional changes to state tax policy due to the 2018 federal tax cuts, passed largely along party lines, 26-14. Governor Kelly publicly denounced the bill, fueling speculation she may veto the bill if it arrives on her desk. SB 22 now travels to the House Tax Committee for consideration.

We reported last week on SB 56 and HB 2115, which would require professional service providers to purchase/install/maintain software on their computers and laptops to track screen images, mouse clicks, and key strokes. Truly horrible bills. Good news this week as it would appear we have stopped those bills in their tracks. Hearings had been scheduled for both bills, but upon providing more information to the Committee Chairs about the true impact of these bills, both hearings were cancelled.

HB 2026, the fire sprinkler industry act, will be heard next Tuesday in House Commerce. ACEC KS continues to study this bill and consider whether or not the industry should weigh in.

We expect more infrastructure-specific funding legislation to be introduced in the next couple weeks.

Senate and House budget committees continue meeting to review and provide recommendations that will eventually be pieced together for the next fiscal year's budget.

Most legislation (some committees are exempt from deadlines) has to pass in its chamber of origin in the next two weeks or will be dead for the session, meaning committee activity will pick up in the coming days.

Stay tuned...

Bill Number and Sponsor	Bill Subject	Current Status	Last Action
SB 1 Jim Denning, R-8th	Requiring state general fund moneys to fund school district transportation weightings, not state highway fund moneys; making and concerning appropriations for the department of education and the department of transportation for FY 2019	In Senate Ways and Means	01/15/2019 - Senate Referred to Ways and Means
SB 56	Requiring verification of certain hours billed by contractors under certain state contracts	In Senate Ethics, Elections and Local	01/31/2019 - Senate Referred to Ethics, Elections and

Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee		Government	Local Government
SB 69 Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee	Requiring the state corporation commission to study electric rates and consider certain factors in establishing just and reasonable electric rates	In Senate Utilities	02/01/2019 - Senate Referred to Utilities
SB 72 Senate Ways and Means Committee	Supplemental appropriations for FY 2019, FY 2020, FY 2021, FY 2022, FY 2023 and FY 2024 for various state agencies	In Senate Ways and Means	02/01/2019 - Senate Referred to Ways and Means
HB 2017 Pam Curtis, D-32nd	Restoring local control over certain compensation, wage and benefit requirements for construction projects	In House Commerce, Labor and Economic Development	01/15/2019 - House Referred to Commerce, Labor and Economic Development
HB 2022 Jim Ward, D-86th	Enacting the Kansas working families pay raise act	In House Commerce, Labor and Economic Development	01/15/2019 - House Referred to Commerce, Labor and Economic Development
HB 2026 Stan Frownfelter, D-37th	Enacting the fire sprinkler industry act	In House Commerce, Labor and Economic Development	02/06/2019 - House Scheduled Hearing in Commerce, Labor and Economic Development: Tuesday, 2/12, 1:30 PM, Rm 112-N
HB 2085 House Agriculture Committee	Time requirement for reinstatement of a forfeited benefit unit of a rural water district	In House Agriculture	01/30/2019 - House Scheduled Hearing in Agriculture: Tuesday, 2/5, 3:30 PM, Rm 582-N
HB 2109 House Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications Committee	Requiring electric public utilities to acquire a permit from the state corporation commission prior to the siting of certain electric transmission lines	In House Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications	01/31/2019 - House Referred to Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications
HB 2115 House Federal and State Affairs Committee	Requiring verification of certain hours billed by contractors under certain contracts	In House Federal and State Affairs	02/01/2019 - House Referred to Federal and State Affairs
HB 2121 House Appropriations Committee	Supplemental appropriations for FY 2019, FY 2020, FY 2021, FY 2022, FY 2023 and FY 2024 for various state agencies	In House Appropriations	02/06/2019 - House Scheduled Hearing in Appropriations: Wednesday, 2/13, 9:00 AM, Rm 112-N
HB 2122 House Appropriations	Appropriations for FY 2020, FY 2021 and FY 2022 for various state agencies	In House Appropriations	02/01/2019 - House Referred to Appropriations

Committee			
HB 2130 Susan Ruiz, D-23rd	Amending the Kansas act against discrimination to include sexual orientation and gender identity or expression	In House Federal and State Affairs	02/05/2019 - House Referred to Federal and State Affairs
HB 2178 House Judiciary Committee	Amending the Kansas underground utility damage prevention act	In House Judiciary	02/08/2019 - House Scheduled Hearing in Judiciary: Tuesday, 2/12, 3:30 PM, Rm 346-S
HB 2190 House Federal and State Affairs Committee	Prohibiting the state corporation commission from authorizing certain charges for electric service	In House Federal and State Affairs	02/08/2019 - House Referred to Federal and State Affairs