

The Moser Minute

Week Nine: March 7 – 10, 2022

Federal & State Affairs hearings on:

- **HB2681** Requiring all forfeited or seized firearms in the possession of law enforcement agency to be disposed of in accordance with the Kansas code of criminal procedure.
- **HB2722** Creating a procedure for appointment of delegates to a convention under Article V of the Constitution of the United States and prescribing duties and responsibilities therefore.
- **SB34** Substitute for SB34 by Senate Committee on Federal & State Affairs-Requiring review of administrative rules and regulations every five years.
- **HB 2644** Designating the Sandhill Plum as the official state fruit. This bill was introduced by Representative Randy Garber, District 62. I worked with him and students from three grade schools as they plunged into the legislative process, first having a vote from grade schools across the state to select the sandhill plum, and then actually formulating the bill that was heard on March 10th in Federal & State Affairs. This was a tremendous learning process for these young, imaginative minds!

Children & Seniors listened to a presentation on Oral Health Impact on Children and Senior Citizens.

Hearings on:

- **SB12** Requiring the Kansas Department for Children and Families to implement performance-based contracts.
- **SB329** Authorizing the state treasurer to determine account owners and designated beneficiaries for an ABLE savings account, adding who may open such an account and requiring compliance with the federal internal revenue code. This bill mirrors HB2490 which passed the House 118 – 3 on February 9, 2022.

Agriculture heard an update on Kansas State University's College of Agriculture from Dr. Ernie Minton, Dean of the College of Agriculture.

Hearings on:

- **SB346** Allowing for the on-farm retail sale of milk and milk products, authorizing the secretary of agriculture to declare an imminent health hazard, extending certain milk and dairy license fees, and establishing certain standards for milk.
- **HB2723** Authorizing the animal health commissioner to impose a civil penalty for violations related to transporting animals into the state.

Actions on the House Floor I supported all legislation voted on this week.

- **HB2710** Increasing the percentage of alcohol by volume allowed to not more than 16% for domestic table wine and the domestic fortified wine threshold to more than 16% alcohol by volume. This brings state law in line with current federal law. Passed 116 – 3.
- **HB2548** Implementing additional reporting requirements for informational technology projects and state agencies and requiring additional information technology security training and status reports. Passed 116 – 3.
- **HCR5027** Applying to the Congress of the United States to call a convention of the states. This resolution failed to reach the two-thirds majority required (84 votes), with a vote of 76 – 43.
- **SB 2** Allowing consumption of beer, wine, or other alcoholic liquor on the Kansas state fairgrounds; increasing the number of temporary permits an applicant may receive from four to

12 permits per year; limiting what cities, counties or townships may charge for a temporary permit to not more than \$25 per day; and crediting a portion of moneys collected from the liquor drink tax and the liquor enforcement tax to the state fair capital improvements fund. Passed 87 - 31. Senate has non-concurred on House amendments. Differences will be worked out in conference committee.

- **HB2462** Removing the standing committee membership requirements for members of the joint committee on state-tribal relations. Passed 118 – 0.
- **SB421** Concerning the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System (KPERs). Transferring \$253,866,022 from the state general fund to the Kansas public employee’s retirement fund during fiscal year 2022 and eliminating certain level-dollar KPERs employer contribution payments. Passed 113 – 5. This bill had overwhelming support and embodies the House of Representative’s commitment to pay down state debt. Senate has non-concurred; differences will be resolved in conference committee.
- **House Substitute for Substitute for SB 286** Continuing the governmental response to the COVID-19 pandemic in Kansas by extending the expanded use of telemedicine, the suspension of certain requirements related to medical care facilities. House amendments to the bill adjusted healthcare provider civil immunity provisions and providing certain protections for healthcare workers. Sunsets on January 20, 2023. Passed 102 – 17. SB 286 goes back to the Senate for consideration of the House amendments.
- **HB 2466** Establishing the promoting advancement in computing knowledge act to increase the availability of computer science education in Kansas schools. Passed 115 – 4.

One item worthy of attention: House Taxation will take final action on **HB 2711**, the comprehensive tax plan that reduces the state food sales tax rate from 6.5 to 3.5 percent, while creating a path to zero if funds are sufficient in the Budget Stabilization Fund. The plan also lowers the state sales tax rate from 6.5 to 6.3 percent, addressing the totality of sales tax relief, rather than a limited focus like the Governor’s proposal. The food sales tax income tax credit becomes a refundable tax credit, effectively taking food sales tax to zero for those that we have heard need it most – families with children, seniors, disabled citizens.

Another service dog got my attention this week as Midwest Battle Buddies hosted an informational table in the Rotunda. The organization provides service dogs for U.S. veterans in need who have been diagnosed with any number of issues from PTSD to balance and mobility needs. Visitors in my office this week were Dr. Kurt Olson, OD, Marysville; Cindy Hower, Holton; and four students from KSU-Current Student Body Vice-President Cameron Koger, Payton Lynn, Reed Krewson and Austin Kruse; and Doug Smart, Abilene.

Please join Senator Elaine Bowers and me at Landoll Lanes in Marysville at 9:30AM, Saturday, March 19th to discuss the 2022 session.

Follow the session on: www.kslegislature.org

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Please leave a message if I don’t answer.