

# LEGISLATIVE REPORT

***APWA Kansas***

***Kansas Legislative Report***

***January 27, 2023***

Activity in Topeka continues to build as the Legislature finishes its third week of session. House and Senate committees began holding bill hearings with dozens more scheduled for the coming weeks. New legislative proposals continue to arrive on the scene, with over 300 bills introduced so far.

Governor Kelly outlined her vision for state at her State of the State address, kicking off her second term. The Governor's stated priorities included workforce development and water investment while also advocating for legalization of medical marijuana and Medicaid expansion.

## **Water Policy**

Water policy education continues as the House Committee on Water received a presentation from Dawn Buehler of the Kansas Water Authority. In the following meeting, presentations were provided by Groundwater Management District No. 1 and Groundwater Management District No. 4. Committee questions aimed to understand their respective conservation efforts and as well the performance of existing LEMAs and proposed ones.

Several water related bills are expected to be introduced in the coming days. To date, the following bills have been introduced but no hearings scheduled at this time.

- HB 2142 introduced to create the School Drinking Water Act
- HB 2159 is related to underground injection wells.

## **Transportation Policy**

The House Committee on Transportation is leading conversations on alternative funding options for transportation. The committee received presentations on mileage road usage studies across the nation with one currently underway by the Kansas Department of Transportation scheduled for completion in October 2024.

HB 2004, scheduled for a hearing on January 31 in the House Committee on Transportation, proposes to create the EV Energy Equity Road Repair Tax. The bill specifically would add a new tax on electricity distributed at public charging stations.

A pair of legislative bills propose to eliminate the \$4 vehicles modernization surcharge paid at the time vehicles are registered each year. Since 2013, the \$4 fee has been sent to the State Highway Fund. HB

2148 and SB 90 have been both been assigned to their respective transportation committees though no hearings have been scheduled at this time.

**Budget Bills**

Over the coming weeks, the budget subcommittees will review assigned sections of the budget and agency recommendations.

Thank you and please see below for the bill matrix.

Travis Lowe, CAE

Bill Number and Sponsor	Bill Subject	Current Status	Last Action
<a href="#">HB 2047</a> House Water Committee	Increasing the amortization period on loans from the Kansas water pollution control revolving fund	In House Agriculture and Natural Resources	<b>01/20/2023 - House</b> Withdrawn from Water; referred to Agriculture and Natural Resources
<a href="#">HB 2142</a> House Education Committee	Creating the get the lead out of school drinking water act to require schools to comply with legal limits on lead content in school drinking water	In House Education	<b>01/25/2023 - House</b> Referred to Education
<a href="#">HB 2159</a> House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee	Providing for additional sources of revenue for the water program management fund and creating additional fees for the regulation of underground injection control wells	In House Agriculture and Natural Resources	<b>01/25/2023 - House</b> Referred to Agriculture and Natural Resources
<a href="#">SB 90</a> Senate Transportation Committee	Increasing certain registration and title fees on vehicles for services provided by county treasurers and the division of vehicles, decreasing certain fees related to administrative costs and modifying the disposition of such fees and eliminating the division of vehicles modernization surcharge	In Senate Transportation	<b>01/25/2023 - Senate</b> Referred to Transportation

<p><a href="#">HB 2004</a> Bill Rhiley, R-80th</p>	<p>Establishing the EV energy equity road repair tax act and providing for a road repair tax on electricity distributed from a public charging station for electric vehicles</p>	<p>In House Transportation</p>	<p><b>01/25/2023 - House</b> Scheduled Hearing in Transportation: Tuesday, 1/31, 1:30 PM, Rm 582-N</p>
<p><a href="#">HB 2148</a>  House Transportation Committee</p>	<p>Increasing certain registration and title fees on vehicles for services provided by county treasurers and the division of vehicles, decreasing certain fees related to administrative costs and disposition of such fees and eliminating the division of vehicles modernization surcharge</p>	<p>In House Transportation</p>	<p><b>01/25/2023 - House</b> Referred to Transportation</p>