

The Moser Minute No. 3

February 13, 2026

Welcome to the third edition of *The Moser Minute*. Session started one month ago. Time flies.

Appropriations Committee: This week the last of the 98 agency budgets came before the Appropriations Committee and were reported out, including the largest budgets-Kansas State Department of Education, (approximately half of the state budget), Office of Early Childhood, Department of Children & Families, Kansas Department of Health & Environment – Health, Kansas Department of Aging & Disability Services, and Kansas Board of Regents. **HB 2434**—**“Building back the State Budget”** occurred by adding supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2026 and appropriations for fiscal years 2027 and 2028, and in some instances, cutting some budgets even further. Successful amendments from the Ag Budget Committee included: (1) Adding language stating that any unencumbered balance in the following accounts in the Kansas Water Office Budget in excess of \$100 as of June 30, 2026, is hereby reappropriated for FY 2027 to these three accounts: Water Planning and Project Development, Independent Program Evaluation and the John Redmond Reservoir Hydrosuction Pilot Program; (2) Adjustments to the Commerce Budget-deleting \$1,150,000 Economic Development Initiative Funds from three divisions (3) This amendment combines Kansas State University, the Kansas Legislature and the Kansas Dairy Industry to work together on an equal basis to provide funding for the planning and construction of a new dairy facility on the KSU campus. Funds shall be obtained as follows: KSU-\$5M for three years; Kansas Legislature-\$5M for three years; and finally, the Kansas Dairy Industry-\$5M for three years, from cash donations, in-kind contributions or other means. KSU shall provide an incremental plan for planning and construction with progress reports to be presented each year for FY 2027, FY 2028 and FY2029 to Higher Education Budget Committee, Agriculture and Natural Resources Budget Committee, and legislative funds will be let each year following certification that KSU and the Kansas Dairy Industry have reached their funding level for each year.

Agriculture and Natural Resources Budget Committee: Informational briefings were held on Kansas Grasslands, Mike Beam, Secretary of the Kansas Department of Agriculture; Musil Center for Sustainable Wheat Production at KSU, Aaron Harries, Vice President of Research and Operations at Kansas Wheat.

Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee: HB2582—Concerning animal care relating to veterinary services for food animals in rural Kansas; establishing the developing veterinary medicine in rural Kansas program within the Kansas Department of Agriculture and providing financial assistance and support to veterinarians practicing in rural communities. **HB2114**—Authorizing the Chief Engineer at the Kansas Department of Agriculture to adopt rules and regulations under the Watershed District Act and concerning fees and inspections of dams. These two bills passed out of committee on February 12, 2026.

House floor action:

1. **HB 2467** Prohibiting past convictions or sanctions for failure to comply with a traffic citation that are more than five years old from being considered by courts or the division of vehicles. (122-0)

2. **HB 2487** Defining teacher and paraprofessional for purposes of eligibility for a scholarship under the Kansas education opportunity scholarship program. (121-0)
3. **HB 2243** Requiring the secretary for children and families to enter a memorandum of understanding with military installations to refer children in need of care cases involving children of military personnel to a military family advocacy program. (121-0)
4. **HB 2132** Determining when a law enforcement officer may or shall take a child into custody. (119-0)
5. **HB 2468** Electing to participate in the federal tax credit for individual contributions to scholarship granting organizations and increasing the aggregate tax credit limit on the tax credit for low-income students' scholarship program. (70-49)
6. **HB 2479** Authorizing electronic monitoring with victim notification as a condition of release prior to trial for certain offenders charged with a domestic violence offense, domestic battery, stalking or violation of a protective order. (118-1)

Other bills listed as follows: renaming highways; addressing interstate licensure compacts to provide interstate practice privileges in occupational therapy, respiratory therapy and placement of children; requiring criminal history checks for APRNs and Nurse Anesthetist; recognizing Charlie Kirk Free Speech Day; a water bill defining authority of chief engineer and the water transfer hearing panel; election bills concerning citizenship on driver's licenses and website restrictions on certain voter registration sites; providing for the designation of entire neighborhoods under the Kansas Neighborhood Revitalization Act; and a bill protecting existing motorsports venues immunity from civil actions for nuisance, were also passed.

There has been much discussion regarding Law Enforcement restructuring within the Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks. This project has been put on an indefinite pause until further notice. For now, law enforcement roles will remain status quo.

The first bill to be signed into law this session was **HB 2347**, which amends and creates laws related specifically to buying sexual relations, certain crimes of theft, criminal use of a financial card, and unlawful use of a laser pointer. **HB 2347** is four bills from 2025 rolled into one in 2026.

Visitors this week included Dr. Jay Kalbas, Director of the Kansas Geological Survey, Nicholas Levendofsky, KS Farmers Union and three other members of Kansans for Conservation, Mark R. Olson, DVM, regarding an update on modernizing the Veterinarian Practice Act, and Karen Siebert, Harvesters, regarding the SNAP program. Angie Price, Marshall County Treasurer, attended the Kansas County Treasurer's meetings, and I was able to visit with her the evening of February 11th.

Thank you for your continued support. You can reach me with any questions or concerns at lisa.moser@house.ks.gov.

Representative Lisa M. Moser

Kansas House District No. 106

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