



Travel Industry Association of Kansas

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The Kansas Legislature has officially completed its second week despite two significant snow storms which may have impeded the Legislature's progress a bit. However, despite the snow storms the budget committees have begun hearing from state agencies after last Wednesday's State of the State where Governor Brownback unveiled his budget proposals. The full budget proposal can be found at <http://budget.ks.gov/gbr.htm>, but below are some highlights from the Governor's budget:

- Elimination of 2,000 state jobs & consolidation of state government including elimination of 8 agencies
- Higher education, including promised targeted spending for the University Economic Growth initiative, is up \$10 million.
- No cut in prison funding & KDOT's highway program unaltered by his budget.
- The budget adds \$239 million for Medicaid because costs expected to increase \$166 million due to reduced federal funding and enrollment growth
- Abolishes Kansas Inc., restructure Department of Commerce as well as absorb Kansas Technology Enterprise Corp.
- Relocates Kansas Commission on Disability Concerns to governor's office.
- Pulls Human Rights Commission and Enhanced 911 (emergency telephone) into attorney general's office.
- Moves Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCOR) to Regents (it is now run by KTEC).
- Makes the Kansas Arts Commission into a 501 C (3) operation.
- Merges Kansas Health Policy Authority into the Division of Health of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.
- Abolishes Kansas Parole Board, moves functions into Department of Corrections, plus some administrative consolidation of Juvenile Justice Authority with Corrections.
- Merges Animal Health, State Conservation Commission and Agriculture Marketing Program into Kansas Department of Agriculture.
- Moves Travel and Tourism program from Commerce to Wildlife and Parks.

Below please find the first list of the bills for the 2011 Legislative Session. These bills have been identified as issues which may impact the Kansas travel industry. Within the bill tracker you will find the bill number and its subject matter as well the current status of the bill and whether there is pending committee action on the bill.

Please note the bills highlighted in yellow will be the subject of a committee hearing. You may access the full text of the bill by holding down your computer control key and clicking on the bill number in the report.



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Bill Number and Sponsor	Bill Subject	Current Status	Last Action
HB 2002 Robert Grant, D-2nd	Amendments to the Kansas expanded lottery act	In House Federal and State Affairs	01/10/2011 - House Introduced; referred to Federal and State Affairs
HB 2008 Lance Kinzer, R-14th	Making identity theft a person felony	In House Corrections and Juvenile Justice	01/14/2011 - House Referred to Corrections and Juvenile Justice
HB 2026 House Federal and State Affairs Committee	Kansas immigration accountability act	In House Federal and State Affairs	01/19/2011 - House Referred to Federal and State Affairs
HB 2037 Mike ONeal, R-104th	Committees; creating the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development	In House Rules and Journal	01/20/2011 - House Referred to Rules and Journals
HB 2039 House Health and Human Services Committee	Smoking regulations; casino exemption deleted	In House Corrections and Juvenile Justice	01/20/2011 - House Referred to Corrections and Juvenile Justice

If you should have any questions or concerns regarding the highlighted bills above, please do not hesitate to contact our lobbyist, Natalie Bright, at Natalie@brightcarpenter.com or at 316.640.1422.