

THE TRUTH REPORT

A Weekly Rundown of Important Activity in Topeka, from a Principled Perspective

Week Ten - March 19, 2023

"of course men should not compete in girls' sports." -Governor Laura Kelly

Topeka, KS

KTC has released its policy positions for 2023, please check them out HERE. The legislature is up to 773 bills this session. While the Governor did veto Fairness in Girl's Sports on Friday and WSU is hosting a drag show which their site says will allow children, lots of good things happened in the state government this week.

The Senate made extreme progress on fiscal responsibility this Thursday. Human Smuggling, which has passed the house, had its hearing in the Senate. Education Savings Accounts passed the house this week making substantial gains in the biggest minority rights issue of our time, school choice. Raises for teachers and increased funding to special ed, despite the federal government, passed the house this week as well.

It was a good week. Healthy policy was promoted in a fiscally responsible way. Spending increases passed by the Senate are less than inflation. Spending cuts were included in the same budget, paving the way for retirement tax cuts and implementing a flat tax. Tax and Spending cuts passed together are how it's done. We will see how the House improves the FY 23/24 spending next week. GO K-STATE!

Conservative Offense

Education Savings Accounts. H Sub SB 83 is a compromise between Republican ESAs and Democrat funding wants. ESAs would allow parents, rather than the state, to decide how to spend part of the education dollars for their child. Parents would be equipped with an ESA and would be able to direct its funds towards tuition, textbooks, tutoring, uniforms, etc. as they see fit. These funds would add up to around \$5,000, which is the state's entire portion. This bill also increases teacher pay in hopes of addressing teacher retention and shortages. Lastly, the bill adds \$72 million to special education funding. School Choice is the biggest minority rights issue of our time. Introducing competitiveness in the marketplace is a good thing.

FY 23/24 Appropriations Bill. Sub SB 155 is complicated. The government has grown so much since our founding, that it is hard for anyone to truly understand the entire budget. Here are some highlights. Good things were done to reduce state spending and return more financial freedom to our citizens.

- An amendment requiring a cut of 3.25% or \$95 million of all state discretionary spending was added.
- FY 23 and 24 were increased less than inflation when ARPA funds were not accounted for.
- A proviso banning DEI loyalty oaths in employment applications to state universities was included.
- An amendment shifted \$1.8 million that wasn't being used in FY 23, to address mental health issues.

Sub SB 155 SUB SB 155 Explanation

Marijuana. SB 135 had a hearing and was tabled this week. The bill would have legalized Marijuana in Kansas. After two days of hearings, the committee began to work on the bill until they decided it was too flawed to correct.

Some of the issues brought up with SB 135 were as follows.

- The VA currently <u>states</u> that it deems weed as harmful to those suffering from PTSD.
- SB 135 would allow the executive branch to add any condition it deemed acceptable to qualify for using weed, without input from the legislature.
 SB 135 would allow minors to possess weed, including in school.
- SB 135 would force jails and prisons to provide weed to inmates, on the taxpayer dime.
- The number of state employees needed for a weed program and their cost was unclear."

SB 135
Hearing Proponents and Neutral
Hearing Opponents

Protecting Children Everywhere Act. SB 317 introduced this week, or the Protecting Children Everywhere Act, extends the period of time in which perpetrators of child sexual abuse may be prosecuted using civil suits. According to the bill, the crime of child sexual abuse (such as sexual battery and exploitation of persons under the age of eighteen and the trading of child pornography) could be prosecuted for up to 13 years after the victim turns 18. Should the victim be a member of the Kansas retirement system and choose to prosecute their abuser, the prosecution must begin within ten years of commission. Additionally, SB 317 holds governmental agencies responsible for creating policies and monitoring their employees in order to protect children from sexual abuse.

Fairness in Girls' Sports. Vetoed by the Governor on Friday

HB 2238 is about fairness and valuing women. We believe in science, which states that there are two genders: male and female. Women are valuable and supporting competition between females and biological males who identify as "females" devalues women. During the hearing for this bill, radicals suggested that asking questions regarding the LGBTQIA+ issue, much less submitting bills, was killing kids and increasing depression. In actuality, depression and suicide rates among children, especially those with gender dysphoria, are increasing because of the LGBTQIA+ agenda. This agenda idolizes one's personal sexual gratification above all else. It eliminates the satisfaction, security, and sense of purpose found in being raised by a traditional mother-and-father family unit while striving to create its own fake versions of these qualities. Virtue-signaling adults push this agenda to feel better about themselves—not to help children. This sexualizing of children and propagation of individual sexual gratification above all else will continue to degrade our nation's mental, physical, and spiritual health.

HB 2238

Election DAY. SB 209 passed the House Elections Committee this week.

SB 209 would require all ballots to be cast on election day by 7 pm- instead of allowing a three-day grace period. Life is full of deadlines and enforcing one that is known years in advance and a serious civic duty is good citizenship.

SB 209

Thank You! That's it for this week!

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