

# Feb 2021 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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## Update on Legislative Day:

Due to Covid-19 restrictions Legislative Day will not happen in the way it normally does. KSPA and KSCA are still partnering with us on this. We have drafted a sample letter to send to legislators. Members are encouraged to share their own stories, anecdotes, and use the information provided in this letter to draft their own emails/letters to their legislators. Some tips: Be brief, be respectful, stick to the issues we have identified as important to our organization.

February 16th @ 1:30pm, members from KSPA, KSCA, and KSSWA will be giving testimony before the House Education Committee. You can listen in to live audio, however, only those of us who are testifying can log into the actual meeting via a link the legislative assistant for that committee provided. The link below is the Youtube channel where members can watch live!

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC\\_0NO-Pb96CFABvxDwXAq8A](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_0NO-Pb96CFABvxDwXAq8A)--Select House Education Committee

We will be trying to get in with the Senate Education Committee sometime in March. They did not have time to squeeze us into their agenda prior to that time.

## Kansas Legislative Session Began 1/11/2021 Bills to keep an eye on:

### SENATE

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#### **SB 43** Current Sponsor: [Committee on Education](#)

Creating the Kansas promise scholarship act to provide postsecondary educational scholarships for certain two-year associate degree programs, career and technical education certificates and other stand alone-programs.

[http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021\\_22/measures/documents/sb43\\_00\\_0000.pdf](http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021_22/measures/documents/sb43_00_0000.pdf)

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#### **SB 93** Current Sponsor: [Committee on Education](#)

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Requiring the allocation of sufficient school district moneys to improve academic performance of underachieving students.

[http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021\\_22/measures/documents/sb93\\_00\\_0000.pdf](http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021_22/measures/documents/sb93_00_0000.pdf)

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### **SB139** Current Sponsor: [Committee on Health and Public Welfare](#)

Permitting the administration of certain tests, questionnaires, surveys and examinations regarding student beliefs and practices on an opt-out basis and providing conditions therefore.

[http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021\\_22/measures/documents/sb139\\_00\\_0000.pdf](http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021_22/measures/documents/sb139_00_0000.pdf)

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### **SB 144** Current Sponsor: [Committee on Education](#)

Making the high-density at-risk student weighting of the Kansas school equity and enhancement act permanent by removing the sunset.

[http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021\\_22/measures/documents/sb144\\_00\\_0000.pdf](http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021_22/measures/documents/sb144_00_0000.pdf)

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### **SB 173** Current Sponsor: [Committee on Education](#)

Extending the high-density at-risk student weighting, requiring certain transfers to the at-risk fund of a school district and establishing requirements for school district at-risk fund expenditures and for identification of students eligible to receive at-risk programs and services

[http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021\\_22/measures/documents/sb173\\_00\\_0000.pdf](http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021_22/measures/documents/sb173_00_0000.pdf)

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### **SB 208** Current Sponsor: [Committee on State and Federal Affairs](#)

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Creating the fairness in women's sports act to require that female student athletic teams only include members who are biologically female.

[http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021\\_22/measures/documents/sb208\\_00\\_0000.pdf](http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021_22/measures/documents/sb208_00_0000.pdf)

## HOUSE

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### **HB 2037** Current Sponsor: [Representative Coleman](#)

Establishing public school training and instruction standards for identifying child sexual abuse.

[http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021\\_22/measures/documents/hb2037\\_00\\_0000.pdf](http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021_22/measures/documents/hb2037_00_0000.pdf)

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### **HB 2038** Current Sponsor: [Representative Huebert](#)

Creating the educator protection act to provide excess professional liability insurance coverage for teachers.

[http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021\\_22/measures/documents/hb2038\\_00\\_0000.pdf](http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021_22/measures/documents/hb2038_00_0000.pdf)

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### **HB 2301** Current Sponsor: [Committee on Education](#)

Requiring accredited high schools to provide a course of instruction in personal financial literacy.

[http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021\\_22/measures/documents/hb2301\\_00\\_0000.pdf](http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021_22/measures/documents/hb2301_00_0000.pdf)

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### **HB 2302** Current Sponsor: [Committee on Education](#)

Requiring school districts to provide copies of certain tests, questionnaires, surveys or examinations prior to receiving consent to administer such test, questionnaire, survey or examination.

[http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021\\_22/measures/documents/hb2302\\_00\\_0000.pdf](http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021_22/measures/documents/hb2302_00_0000.pdf)

### **Senate and House Subcommittees of Interest**

Senate Education Subcommittee:

[http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021\\_22/committees/ctte\\_s\\_ed\\_1/](http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021_22/committees/ctte_s_ed_1/)

Senate Public Health and Welfare Subcommittee:

[http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021\\_22/committees/ctte\\_s\\_phw\\_1/](http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021_22/committees/ctte_s_phw_1/)

House Education Subcommittee:

[http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021\\_22/committees/ctte\\_h\\_ed\\_1/](http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021_22/committees/ctte_h_ed_1/)

House Children and Seniors Subcommittee:

[http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021\\_22/committees/ctte\\_h\\_children\\_and\\_seniors\\_1/](http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021_22/committees/ctte_h_children_and_seniors_1/)

House Health and Human Services Subcommittee:

[http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021\\_22/committees/ctte\\_h\\_hhs\\_1/](http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2021_22/committees/ctte_h_hhs_1/)

## National Legislative Updates

### SSWAA Call to Action

Congress is at a stalemate on the next stimulus package. In the midst of all this pain and suffering, schools will see budgets and critical positions cut if Congress does not act. SSWAA has reached out to Congress to ask for additional funding to help families across this country and to adequately fund education. Federal benefits to families that expired due to the delay in passing the stimulus package include:

Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA)  
Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC)  
Paid Leave Protection  
Renter Eviction Moratorium  
Home Foreclosure and Eviction Moratorium  
Student Loan Deferment  
Penalty Free Retirement Withdrawal

The following article is a good summary of these benefits--

<https://www.nbcnews.com/business/consumer/here-are-all-pandemic-emergency-benefits-expire-month-n1250297#anchor-PandemicEmergencyUnemploymentCompensationPEUC>

### SSWAA in Action

SSWAA is a member of a number of coalitions that are active on the Hill and regularly engage the Department on issues that are a priority to our membership. Below you can view recent coalition letters that SSWAA has signed on to and press releases introducing bills that we support.

- [Mental Health Liaison Group letter to improve the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#)
- [National Coalition for Public Education letter in support of the HEROES Act](#)
- [Mental Health Liaison Group Letter in support of the Health Care Protection Act](#)

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- Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities letter in opposition to additional IDEA or Sec. 504 waivers
- Press Release announcing introduction of SSWAA endorsed bill to help families and youth facing homelessness