

OVERVIEW

The Kansas Legislative Session will begin on Monday, January 11, 2021 at 2:00pm with the swearing in of all House and Senate members. On Tuesday, January 12 at 7:00pm, Governor Kelly will give her State of the State address via Facebook, in light of COVID concerns. Also, Committee hearings will begin on Tuesday. Due to the concerns of COVID, the hearings will be held in Committee rooms that have had audio and visual upgraded technology in order to limit the number of attendees but still have access to committee actions. There will be other restrictions in regard to who will be at the Capitol, how testimony will be provided, and how voting will occur, especially in the House, with 165 members. It will be an interesting year that is yet to unfold.

The focus of the legislature will be to do the budget, update the KEMA statutes and the liability statutes that will expire late January and revisit much of the legislation that was not passed in 2020.

On Wednesday in Senate Ways and Means and House Appropriations, there will a review of the Governor's budget. It is expected that the Governor will continue to fund the 2020 transportation plan, the schools and focus on COVID issues.

Next Tuesday, the Senate Judiciary is expected to begin discussion on extensions on the KEMA and liability provisions. It is expected that there will be an extension to March, with additional discussions on the issues before the end of session.

The Senate Tax Committee will begin discussing property tax issues that were on the agenda in 2020.

As of noon today, there were 13 Senate bills 47 House bills pre-filed. We will see many more as the session begins to ramp up in the next few weeks.

LINKS TO NEXT WEEKS CALENDAR

Here are the links to next week's calendar:

http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2019 20/chamber/documents/daily_calendar_house_20200305133951.pdf http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2019_20/chamber/documents/daily_calendar_senate_20200305182333.pdf

Since much of the committee and floor activity will be available virtually, here is the link to the Kansas Legislature website, where the audio and visual will be available.

http://kslegislature.org/li/

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