

Journal of the House

FIRST DAY

HALL OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
TOPEKA, KS, Monday, January 8, 2024, 2:00 p.m.

OATH OF OFFICE

I, SCOTT SCHWAB, Secretary of State – State of Kansas, hereby certify that Kyle McNorton was appointed by the Governor, October 24th, 2023, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Fred Patton, State Representative for the 50th Legislative District. Representative-elect McNorton came forward, took and subscribed, or affirmed his oath of office, administered by Secretary of State – State of Kansas, SCOTT SCHWAB as follows:

STATE OF KANSAS, COUNTY OF SHAWNEE, SS:

I do solemnly swear, or affirm, that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Kansas, and will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of

KANSAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
50th Legislative District
so help me God.

KYLE McNORTON

Subscribed and Sworn to, or Affirmed, before me this 24th day of October, 2023.

SCOTT SCHWAB
Secretary of State
State of Kansas

OATH OF OFFICE

I, JENNIFER COOK, Assistant Secretary of State – State of Kansas, hereby certify that Nikki McDonald was appointed by the Governor, December 20th, 2023, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Brad Boyd, State Representative for the 49th Legislative District. Representative-elect McDonald came forward, took and subscribed, or affirmed his oath of office, administered by Assistant Secretary of State – State of Kansas, JENNIFER COOK as follows:

STATE OF KANSAS, COUNTY OF SHAWNEE, SS:

I do solemnly swear, or affirm, that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Kansas, and will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of

KANSAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
49th Legislative District
so help me God.

NIKKI McDONALD

Subscribed and Sworn to, or Affirmed, before me this 20th day of December, 2023.

JENNIFER COOK
Assistant *Secretary of State*
State of Kansas

This being the day fixed by the constitution of the State of Kansas for the assembling of the 2024 session of the legislature, the House was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Speaker Hawkins.

Speaker Hawkins announced the appointment of Susan Kannarr as Chief Clerk, Foster Chisholm as Sgt. At Arms and The Rev. L.D.Holmes as the House Chaplain for 2024.

The roll was called with 120 members present.

Reps. Alcalá, Howe and Sanders were excused on verified illness.

Reps. Ohaebosim and L.Ruiz were excused on excused absence by the Speaker.

Prayer by Chaplain Holmes:

Dear Father; We come before You today seeking Your blessings upon this group which comprises our House of Representatives for the State of Kansas.

For some it is a new experience, while others have served before. For each group I pray wisdom, insight and peace in the midst of this new Session. May their thoughts and actions be pleasing to You and to those whom they have been called to serve.

As they delve into the business set before them, may they find You guiding each decision. Allow every heart to be set upon accomplishing things, that will, in the end make our State a better place to live, work, and raise our families.

Some have left loved ones behind as they seek to fulfill their call to service. For those who are sacrificing a family member to serve our State, would You draw especially close with Your grace and peace, reminding them that to serve is a noble pursuit.

If there are those who, physically are not feeling well today,

I pray you might touch them with Your hand of healing.

Proverbs 10:19 states; “Where there are many words, transgression is unavoidable, but he who restrained his lips is wise.”

Today, as we begin this new Session, guide our thoughts and words that we might be found worthy of the place you have called us to serve.

Allow wisdom to prevail in all our inter-actions and discussions.

in Jesus Name we pray; Amen

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rep. Blex.

INTRODUCTION OF ORIGINAL MOTIONS AND HOUSE RESOLUTIONS

On emergency motion of Rep. Croft, **HR 6028**, by Reps. Hawkins, Croft and Miller, as follows, was introduced and adopted:

HR 6028—A RESOLUTION providing for the organization of the House of Representatives for the 2024 session of the Legislature.

Dan Hawkins, speaker,
 Blake Carpenter, speaker pro tem,
 Chris Croft, majority leader,
 Vic Miller, minority leader,
 Susan Kannarr, chief clerk,
 Foster Chisholm, sergeant at arms,
 and awaits the pleasure of the Senate.

INTRODUCTION OF ORIGINAL MOTIONS AND HOUSE RESOLUTIONS

On emergency motion of Rep. Croft, **HR 6029**, by Reps. Hawkins, Croft and Miller, as follows, was introduced and adopted:

HR 6029—A RESOLUTION providing for changes in seat assignments in the House of Representatives during the 2024 legislative session.

A RESOLUTION relating to assignment of seats of the House of Representatives.

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas: That the members of the 2024 regular session of the legislature shall occupy the same seats assigned pursuant to 2023 House Resolution No. 6005 with the following exceptions: Humphries, seat 37; Maughan, seat 38; Schreiber, seat 39; Helgerson, seat 50; McNorton, seat 63; Weigel, seat 76; McDonald, seat 87.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STATE OFFICERS

Dear Mr. Speaker:

This letter is to advise you that the Office of Chief Clerk has received the following communications during the interim since adjournment of the 2023 Regular Session of the Legislature:

From Kris W. Kobach, Attorney General, pursuant to K.S.A. 22a-243, the 2023 annual report of the Kansas State Child Death Review Board.

From Laura Howard, Secretary, Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services: the Kansas Client Assessment, Referral and Evaluation (CARE) & Pre-Admission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR); 2023 annual report.

From John Calvert, Safe and Secure Schools Unit and Kent Reed, School Counseling Consultant, Climate and Culture Integration, Kansas State Department of Education: per K.S.A. 72-6143(i) Juvenile Justice and Education Annual Report.

From the Office of Governor Laura Kelly:
 Executive Directive No. 23-570, Authorizing Personnel Transactions.
 Executive Directive No. 23-571, Authorizing Personnel Transactions.
 Executive Directive No. 23-572, Authorizing Personnel Transactions and Establishment of a Federal Fund.
 Executive Directive No. 23-573, Authorizing Expenditure of Federal Funds.
 Executive Directive No. 23-574, Authorizing Expenditure of Federal Funds.
 Executive Directive No. 23-575, Authorizing Personnel Transactions and Authorizing Expenditure of Federal Funds.
 Executive Directive No. 23-576, Authorizing Expenditure of Federal Funds.
 Executive Directive No. 23-577, Authorizing Personnel Transactions.
 Executive Directive No. 23-578, Authorizing Expenditure of Federal Funds.

Executive Directive No. 23-579, Authorizing Expenditure of Federal Funds.
 Executive Directive No. 23-580, Authorizing Personnel Transactions.

Executive Order No. 23-02, Amending the Early Childhood Transition Task Force.
 Executive Order No. 23-03, Mandating Continuity of Operations Planning.
 Executive Order No. 23-04, Proclaiming states of drought for Kansas counties.
 Executive Order No. 23-05, Establishing an Advisory Panel for Planning, Design and Construction of a Regional Psychiatric Hospital in South Central Kansas.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STATE OFFICERS

From 988 Coordinating Council; Annual Report to the 2024 Kansas Legislature.
 From Kris W. Kobach, Attorney General; Abuse, Neglect & Exploitation Unit, Annual Report, Kansas Fiscal Year 2023, July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023.
 From Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services; FY23 Report on Area Agencies on Aging.
 From Joel N. Oliver, Executive Director, Kansas Pooled Money Investment Board; in compliance with K.S.A. 75-4222(h), Annual Report for FY 2023.
 From Laura Howard, Secretary, Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services; Annual Report on 2022 HB 2703 - Targeted Employment Act.
 From Mark Hutton, Chairperson, 2023 Legislative Compensation Commission:

2023 LEGISLATIVE COMPENSATION COMMISSION

ORDER SETTING COMPENSATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE KANSAS LEGISLATURE

Pursuant to the authority granted by 2023 Senate Bill No. 229, the Legislative Compensation Commission sets the compensation and salary as follows for members of the Kansas Legislature commencing on the first day of the legislative session in January of 2025:

Base salary. The base salary for members of the Legislature shall be \$43,000 per year. The base salary shall be paid in lieu of amounts set pursuant to K.S.A. 46-137a(a) and (c), and amounts set under those provisions shall be discontinued.

Expenses. In addition to the base salary, members of the Legislature shall receive subsistence allowance as described in K.S.A. 46-137a(b) and allowance for mileage as described in K.S.A. 46-137a(d), in amounts determined pursuant to current law.

Pay period. Members of the Legislature shall be paid according to the following schedule:

- During the first 30 calendar days of the legislative session, 7.75% of total annual compensation.
- During the subsequent four months, 13.07% of total annual compensation per month.
- During the subsequent seven months, 5.71% of total annual compensation per month.

Salary indexing. Beginning on the first day of the legislative session in January of 2026 and each year thereafter, the base salary shall be adjusted each year to match the three-year average of the percent change in wages for all Kansas employees as reflected by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics percent change in “Kansas All Employees

Average Annual Wage” for the previous three full calendar years of available data.

Special sessions and interim meetings. In addition to the base salary, members of the Legislature shall be compensated for special sessions and approved interim committee meetings at a rate of \$172 per day. This amount shall be adjusted annually according to the salary indexing directive above.

Additional leadership salaries. In addition to the base salary, members of the Legislature holding specified positions shall receive the following amounts:

- President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives, an additional 64% of the base salary.
- Vice President of the Senate, Speaker Pro Tem of the House of Representatives, Assistant Majority Leaders of the Senate and House of Representatives and Assistant Minority Leaders of the Senate and House of Representatives, an additional 33% of the base salary.
- Majority and Minority Leaders of the Senate and House of Representatives, an additional 58% of the base salary.
- Chairpersons of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and the House Committee on Appropriations, an additional 50% of the base salary.

Approved by action of the Legislative Compensation Commission on October 19, 2023.

MARK HUTTON
Chairperson

In compliance with **2023 H Sub SB 113**, the following submission were received during the 2023 Interim regarding the disposal of school buildings. USD 257 (Iola, Kansas); USD 259 (Wichita, Kansas); USD 268 (Cheney, Kansas); USD 329 (Alma, Kansas); USD 350 (St. John, Kansas); USD 428 (Great Bend, Kansas); and ANW Special Education Cooperative Interlocal 603 (Chanute, Kansas)

The complete reports are kept on file and open for inspection in the office of the Chief Clerk.

Upon unanimous consent, the House referred back to the regular business, Introduction of Bills and Concurrent Resolutions.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and concurrent resolutions were introduced and read by title:

HB 2475, AN ACT concerning school districts; relating to the school term; prohibiting the commencement thereof prior to Labor Day, exceptions, by Representatives Rhiley, Garber and Pickert.

HB 2476, AN ACT concerning national land designations; requiring legislative approval of any designation of a national heritage area or national historic trail in the state of Kansas or the inclusion of certain property within any such designation; prohibiting state funding of any national heritage area or national historic trail unless such funding is first approved by the legislature of the state of Kansas, by Representatives Fairchild, Bloom, Buehler, Droge, Garber, Goetz, Hill, Houser, Jacobs, T. Johnson, Murphy, Poetter, Rhiley, Schmoe, Seiwert, Smith, E. and Tarwater.

HB 2477, AN ACT concerning agriculture; relating to environmental remediation; increasing the maximum reimbursement from the Kansas agricultural remediation fund from \$200,000 to \$300,000 for an eligible person and from \$400,000 to \$600,000 when both a buyer and a seller or a lessee and a lessor are responsible for remediation; increasing the amount available to the Kansas agricultural remediation board for administrative overhead expenses from \$150,000 to \$175,000; amending K.S.A. 2-3708 and 2-3710 and repealing the existing sections, by Representative Rahjes.

HB 2478, AN ACT concerning insurance; relating to the healthcare provider insurance availability act; adding maternity center to the definition of "healthcare provider" contained therein; amending K.S.A. 40-3401 and repealing the existing section, by Representative Proctor.

HB 2479, AN ACT concerning motor vehicles; relating to the vehicle dealers and manufacturers licensing act; permitting the direct sales of vehicles by certain vehicle manufacturers and distributors; amending K.S.A. 8-2438 and repealing the existing section, by Representatives Fairchild, Haswood, Murphy, Smith, E. and Xu.

HB 2480, AN ACT concerning education; requiring each school district to employ an attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder specialist, by Representative Resman.

HB 2481, AN ACT concerning roads and highways; designating a portion of K-96 highway as the PFC Henry Lee Fisher memorial highway; amending K.S.A. 68-1044 and repealing the existing section, by Representative Seiwert.

HB 2482, AN ACT concerning motor vehicles; relating to license plates; providing for the 1st infantry division distinctive license plate; amending K.S.A. 8-1,147 and K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 8-1,141 and repealing the existing sections, by Representative Dodson, M..

HB 2483, AN ACT concerning audits; relating to the legislative division of post audit; eliminating the requirement for such division to conduct a recurring 911 implementation audit, a recurring Kansas public employees retirement system audit and certain economic development incentive audits; amending K.S.A. 12-5377 and repealing the existing section; also repealing K.S.A. 46-1136 and 46-1137, by Committee on Legislative Post Audit Committee.

HB 2484, AN ACT concerning the behavioral sciences; relating to social work; enacting the social work licensure compact to provide interstate practice privileges; authorizing the behavioral sciences regulatory board to establish a fee for a license with compact practice privileges; amending K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 65-6314 and repealing the existing section, by Representative Ruiz, S..

HB 2485, AN ACT concerning education; relating to the Kansas school equity and enhancement act; requiring school district enrollment to be determined using the current school year or preceding school year enrollment; requiring any school district that closed a school building in the preceding school year to use current school year enrollment; amending K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 72-5132 and repealing the existing section, by Representatives Thomas and Williams, K..

HB 2486, AN ACT concerning health and environment; relating to public water supply systems and hazardous waste; removing the definition of lead-free and an exception for leaded joints from public water supply system laws; updating terminology relating to hazardous waste generated by certain persons; amending K.S.A. 65-171r, 65-3415, 65-3415a and 65-3460 and K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 65-3402 and repealing the existing sections, by Representative Minnix.

HB 2487, AN ACT concerning crimes, punishment and criminal procedure; relating to controlled substances; providing immunity from prosecution for certain drug crimes when persons seek or provide medical assistance related to the use of a controlled substance, by Representatives Hoheisel, Alcalá, Probst and Proctor.

HB 2488, AN ACT concerning crimes, punishment and criminal procedure; relating to assisting suicide; providing criminal penalties for intentionally advising or encouraging another person to commit or attempt to commit suicide; amending K.S.A. 21-5407 and repealing the existing section, by Representative Hoheisel.

HB 2489, AN ACT concerning education; relating to school districts; limiting the legislative option to purchase school district buildings to buildings that were formerly used as attendance centers; amending K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 72-1439 and repealing the existing section, by Representatives Williams, K. and Fairchild.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. **HCR 5017**—

By Representative Dodson, M.

A PROPOSITION to amend article 9 of the constitution of the state of Kansas by adding a new section thereto; concerning the power of home rule for counties.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Kansas, two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the House of Representatives and two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the Senate concurring therein:

Section 1. The following proposition to amend the constitution of the state of Kansas shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the state for their approval or rejection: Article 9 of the constitution of the state of Kansas is hereby amended by adding a new section to read as follows:

"§ 6. Counties' power of home rule. (a) Counties are hereby empowered to determine their local affairs and government including the levying of taxes, excises, fees, charges and other exactions, except when and as the levying of any tax, excise, fee, charge or other exaction is limited or prohibited by enactment of the legislature applicable uniformly to all counties of the same class. The legislature may establish not to exceed four classes of counties for the purpose of imposing all such limitations or prohibitions. Counties shall exercise such determination by resolution passed by the governing body with referendums only in such cases as prescribed by the legislature, subject only to enactments of the legislature of statewide concern applicable uniformly to all counties, to other enactments of the legislature applicable uniformly to all counties, to enactments of the legislature applicable uniformly to all counties of the same class limiting or prohibiting the levying of any tax, excise, fee, charge or other exaction and to enactments of the legislature prescribing limits of indebtedness. All enactments relating to counties now in effect or hereafter enacted and as later amended and until repealed shall govern counties, except as counties shall exempt themselves by charter resolutions as herein provided for in subsection (b).

(b) (1) Any county may by charter resolution elect in the manner prescribed in this section that the whole or any part of any enactment of the legislature applying to such county, other than enactments of statewide concern applicable uniformly to all counties, other enactments applicable uniformly to all counties, and enactments prescribing limits of indebtedness, shall not apply to such

county.

(2) A charter resolution is a resolution which exempts a county from the whole or any part of any enactment of the legislature as referred to in this section and which may provide substitute and additional provisions on the same subject. Such charter resolution shall be so titled, shall designate specifically the enactment of the legislature or part thereof made inapplicable to such county by the adoption of such resolution and contain the substitute and additional provisions, if any, and shall require a two-thirds vote of the members-elect of the governing body of such county. Every charter resolution shall be published once each week for two consecutive weeks in the official county newspaper or, if there is none, in a newspaper of general circulation in the county.

(3) No charter resolution shall take effect until 60 days after its final publication. If, within 60 days of its final publication, a petition signed by a number of electors of the county equal to not less than 10% of the number of electors who voted at the last preceding regular county election shall be filed in the office of the clerk of such county demanding that such resolution be submitted to a vote of the electors, it shall not take effect until submitted to a referendum and approved by a majority of the electors voting thereon. An election, if called, shall be called within 30 days and held within 90 days after the filing of the petition. The governing body shall pass a resolution calling the election and fixing the date, which resolution shall be published once each week for three consecutive weeks in the official county newspaper or, if there is none, in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, and the election shall be conducted as elections for officers and by the officers handling such elections. The proposition shall be: "Shall charter resolution No. _____, entitled (title of resolution) take effect?" The governing body may submit any charter resolution to a referendum without petition by the same publication of the charter resolution, and the same publication of the resolution calling the election as for resolutions upon petition and such charter resolution shall then become effective when approved by a majority of the electors voting thereon. Each charter resolution becoming effective shall be recorded by the county clerk in a book maintained for that purpose with a statement of the manner of adoption, and a certified copy shall be filed with the secretary of state, who shall keep an index of the same.

(4) Each charter resolution enacted shall control and prevail over any prior or subsequent act of the governing body of the county, and may be repealed or amended only by charter resolution or by enactments of the legislature applicable to all counties.

(c) Powers and authority granted to counties pursuant to this section shall be liberally construed for the purpose of giving to counties the largest measure of self-government.

(d) This amendment shall be effective on and after July 1, 2025."

Sec. 2. The following statement shall be printed on the ballot with the amendment as a whole:

"Explanatory statement. This amendment would provide a constitutional basis for county home rule, which is currently enshrined only in statutory law. Counties could pass home rule resolutions to legislate locally on matters not

covered by state law. A county could enact a charter resolution to exempt itself from non-uniform state laws that apply to the county and provide substitute or additional provisions to that law. The legislature could preempt counties from exercising home rule powers by enacting state laws that apply uniformly to all counties, or, when the legislature levies a county tax, excise, fee, charge or other exaction, when such levy applies uniformly to all counties of the same class, as defined by statute.

"A vote for this proposition would empower counties to determine their local affairs and government with a constitutional grant of power that could only be preempted by enactments of the legislature that apply uniformly to all counties.

"A vote against this proposition would retain the current statutory authority of counties to determine their local affairs and government, but such authority could continue to be removed or restricted by enactments of the legislature, regardless of uniformity."

Sec. 3. This resolution, if approved by two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the House of Representatives and two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the Senate, shall be entered on the journals, together with the yeas and nays. The secretary of state shall cause this resolution to be published as provided by law and shall cause the proposed amendment to be submitted to the electors of the state at the general election in November in the year 2024, unless a special election is called at a sooner date by concurrent resolution of the legislature, in which case the proposed amendment shall be submitted to the electors of the state at the special election.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

On emergency motion of Rep. Croft, **HCR 5018**, by Representatives Hawkins, Croft and V. Miller, was introduced and adopted.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. HCR 5018

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION informing the Governor that the two houses of the Legislature are duly organized and ready to receive communications.

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas, the Senate concurring therein: That the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate be appointed to wait upon the Governor and inform the Governor that the two houses of the Legislature are duly organized and are ready to receive any communications the Governor may have to present.

On emergency motion of Rep. Croft, **HCR 5019**, by Representatives Hawkins, Croft and V. Miller, was introduced and adopted.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. HCR 5019

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION providing for joint sessions of the Senate and the House of Representatives for the purpose of hearing messages from the Governor and the Supreme Court.

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas, the Senate concurring therein: That the Senate and the House of Representatives shall meet in joint

session in Representative Hall at 6:00 p.m. on January 10, 2024, for the purpose of hearing a message from the Governor.

Be it further resolved: That the Senate and the House of Representatives shall meet in joint session in Representative Hall at 1:15 p.m. on January 10, 2024, for the purpose of hearing a message from the Supreme Court on the judicial branch of government.

Be it further resolved: That a committee of two members from the Senate and three members from the House of Representatives be appointed to wait upon the Governor.

Be it further resolved: That a committee of two members from the Senate and three members from the House of Representatives be appointed to wait upon the Lieutenant Governor.

Be it further resolved: That a committee of two members from the Senate and three members from the House of Representatives be appointed to wait upon the Supreme Court Justices.

In accordance with **HCR 5019**: Speaker Hawkins appointed the following escorts for the State of the State:

To escort the Governor: Representatives Will Carpenter, Essex and Meyer

To escort the Lt. Governor: Representatives Ellis, Pickert and Featherston

To escort the Supreme Court: Representatives Humphries, Maughan and Osman

To escort the Senate: Representatives Owens, Clifford and Hoye

Speaker Hawkins appointed the following escorts for the State of the Judiciary:

To escort the Supreme Court: Representatives Titus, Lewis and Vaughn

To escort the Senate: Representatives Blew, Thomas and Schlingensiepen

REFERENCE OF BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills were referred to committees as indicated:

Agriculture and Natural Resources: **HB 2476, HB 2477.**

Commerce, Labor and Economic Development: **HB 2483.**

Education: **HB 2475, HB 2480.**

Health and Human Services: **HB 2484.**

Insurance: **HB 2478.**

K-12 Education Budget: **HB 2485.**

Local Government: **HCR 5017.**

Transportation: **HB 2479, HB 2481, HB 2482.**

Water: **HB 2486.**

INTRODUCTION OF ORIGINAL MOTIONS AND HOUSE RESOLUTIONS

The following resolution was introduced and read by title:

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. **HR 6030**—

By Representatives Owens, Anderson, Bergkamp, Bergquist, Blew, Blex, Bloom, Buehler, Butler, B. Carpenter, W. Carpenter, Clifford, Collins, Croft, Delperdang, Dodson, M., Donohoe, Ellis, Essex, Fairchild, Francis, Goetz, Hawkins, Hill, Hoffman, Hoheisel, Howe, Howerton, Humphries, Jacobs, T. Johnson, Kessler, Landwehr, Mason, Maughan, McNorton, Minnix, Moser, Murphy, Osman, Penn, Pickert, Poetter, Probst, Proctor, Rahjes, Resman, Rhiley, Roth, Clayton, Schmoie, Seiwert, Smith, E., Sutton, Thomas, Turk, Turner, Underhill, Waggoner, Wasinger and L. Williams.

HR 6030—A RESOLUTION condemning the October 7 attacks on the State of Israel and reaffirming Kansas' support and cooperation with the State of Israel.

WHEREAS, Israel was founded following the killing of 6,000,000 Jewish people during the horror of the Holocaust and World War II; and

WHEREAS, On October 7, 2023, Hamas launched air, ground and sea strikes on Israel, targeting Israel's civilian population; and

WHEREAS, The United States has considered Hamas to be a terrorist organization since 1997; and

WHEREAS, Hamas has murdered, burned, raped, beheaded and disfigured over 1,400 Israelis, including hundreds of women, children and elderly, throughout southern Israel while concurrently launching indiscriminate rocket attacks across the entirety of Israel; and

WHEREAS, Hamas deliberately and systematically used sexual violence against women as a weapon; and

WHEREAS, American citizens were among those murdered on October 7; and

WHEREAS, The attacks on October 7 resulted in the deadliest day for Jewish people since the Holocaust and the deadliest day on Israeli soil since the Yom Kippur war in 1973; and

WHEREAS, Over 240 hostages were taken from Israel into Gaza, including over 100 women, children and elderly; and

WHEREAS, The hostages taken included Americans and citizens from around the world; and

WHEREAS, The ages of hostages range from nine months old to 86 years old and include over 30 hostages under the age of 16; and

WHEREAS, Over half of the hostages taken on October 7 remain unaccounted for with no end to their captivity in sight; and

WHEREAS, Hamas' actions have resulted in a 400% increase in antisemitism nationally, including multiple incidents at the University of Kansas; and

WHEREAS, Local Jewish communities have had to increase their security, similar to the security presence required after the 2014 antisemitic attacks in Overland Park; and

WHEREAS, The people of Kansas share a connection with the people of Israel and view Israel as a trusted ally: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas: That we condemn the unprovoked attacks on the State of Israel and reaffirm Kansas' support and cooperation with the State of Israel; and

Be it further resolved: That we demand the unconditional safe return of the hostages; and

Be it further resolved: That we unequivocally support Israel's right to exist, defend itself and protect its citizens from terrorism and harm; and

Be it further resolved: That we place the blame for all violence that occurred on October 7 and thereafter on Hamas, who in their founding charter have stated their intent to exterminate both Israel and the Jewish people at any cost; and

Be it further resolved: That we reject all forms of antisemitism, including threats against Jewish people and Jewish institutions; and

Be it further resolved: That the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives shall send an enrolled copy of this resolution to Consul General Maor Elbaz-Starinsky,

Director of AJC/JCRB Kansas City, Gavriela Geller, Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City president and CEO, Jay Lewis and David Soffer.

Speaker Hawkins announced the referral of **HR 6030** to Committee of the Whole.

On emergency motion of Rep. Croft, pursuant to House Rule 2311, **HR 6030** was advanced to Final Action on Bills and Concurrent Resolutions, subject to amendment and debate. The motion was adopted.

On motion of Rep. Xu to amend, the motion did not prevail.

Also, on motion of Rep. Highberger to amend, the motion did not prevail.

FINAL ACTION ON BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

HR 6030, A RESOLUTION condemning the October 7 attacks on the State of Israel and reaffirming Kansas' support and cooperation with the State of Israel, was considered on final action.

On roll call, the vote was: Yeas 106; Nays 14; Present but not voting: 0; Absent or not voting: 5.

Yeas: Anderson, Awerkamp, Barth, Bergkamp, Bergquist, Blew, Blex, Bloom, Borjon, Bryce, Buehler, Butler, Carpenter, B., Carpenter, W., Clifford, Collins, Concannon, Corbet, Croft, Curtis, Delperdang, Dodson, Donohoe, Droge, Ellis, Eplee, Essex, Estes, Fairchild, Featherston, Francis, Garber, Gardner, Goddard, Goetz, Haskins, Hawkins, Helgerson, Hill, Hoffman, Hoheisel, Houser, Howell, Howerton, Hoyer, Humphries, Jacobs, Johnson, Kessler, Landwehr, Lewis, Mason, Maughan, McDonald, McNorton, Melton, Meyer, Miller, D., Miller, V., Minnix, Moser, Murphy, Neelly, Neighbor, Osman, Ousley, Owens, Penn, Pickert, Poetter Parshall, Poskin, Probst, Proctor, Rahjes, Resman, Rhiley, Robinson, Roth, Sawyer, Sawyer Clayton, Schlingensiepen, Schmoe, Schreiber, Seiwert, Smith, A., Smith, C., Smith, E., Stogsdill, Sutton, Tarwater, Thomas, Thompson, Titus, Turk, Turner, Underhill, Waggoner, Wasinger, Waymaster, Weigel, White, Williams, K., Williams, L., Winn, Woodard, Younger.

Nays: Amyx, Ballard, Carlin, Carmichael, Carr, Haswood, Highberger, Houglan, Martinez, Miller, S., Oropeza, Ruiz, S., Vaughn, Xu.

Present but not voting: none.

Absent or not voting: Alcalá, Howe, Ohaebosim, Ruiz, L., Sanders.

The resolution was adopted.

EXPLANATIONS OF VOTE

Mr. Speaker: I vote NO on **HR 6030**. The murder, rape, and hostage-taking committed by HAMAS on Oct 7, 2023 are war crimes. I condemn them. This resolution does not acknowledge the devastation facing Palestinian civilians. Thousands, including children, have died in Israeli airstrikes. Thousands more are injured or displaced. Humanitarian groups warn of catastrophe as supplies run out. HAMAS's crimes do not justify further war crimes. A political solution to ensure the safety and dignity of Israelis and Palestinians is the only way forward. The first step must be a permanent ceasefire, with return of hostages and commitment to rebuild Gaza. I therefore vote NO on **HR 6030**. – JOHN CARMICHAEL

MR. SPEAKER: I vote No on **HR 6030**. There are many parts of this resolution I do support. I unequivocally support Israel's right to exist and to self-determination. I condemn all the acts of terror and violence perpetrated by Hamas and antisemitism everywhere. But we must also acknowledge and mourn the suffering and deaths of Palestinian civilians. I am a proponent of peace and of a negotiated political solution that protects the human rights and political self-determination of both peoples. I would resolve for an immediate ceasefire, the return of all hostages, and the opening of borders to humanitarian aid. – LINDSAY VAUGHN

MR. SPEAKER: I vote NO on the Israel Resolution **HR 6030**. The murder, rape and hostage-taking committed by Hamas on October 7 are war crimes. I condemn them. This resolution doesn't acknowledge the devastation facing Palestinian civilians. Thousands, including children, have died in Israeli airstrikes. Thousands more are injured or displaced. Humanitarian groups warn of catastrophe as supplies run out. Hamas's crimes don't justify further war crimes. A political solution to ensure the safety and dignity of Israelis and Palestinians is the only way forward. The first step must be a permanent ceasefire, with return of hostages and commitment to rebuild Gaza. – DENNIS "BOOG" HIGHBERGER, ALLISON HOUGLAND, SYDNEY CARLIN, ANGELA MARTINEZ, SILAS MILLER, FORD CARR, BARBARA BALLARD, MIKE AMYX.

MR. SPEAKER: My yes vote on **HR 6030** today reflects the portions of this resolution in which I am in agreement, but I am casting this vote for less than perfect measures. I must point out that I find it astonishing that this resolution makes no mention of the suffering and deaths of the innocent Palestinian civilians including thousands of children, or the urgent and critical need to find a negotiated and just solution that protects the human rights of all people. - NIKKI McDONALD, TOBIAS SCHLINGENSIEPEN, KIRK HASKINS, VIC MILLER

MR. SPEAKER: I vote yes on **HR 6030** because although I have concerns about parts of this resolution and the manner in which it was forced to the floor today. I feel the majority of my district supports: condemning terrorism, calling for the release of hostages, rejecting antisemitism, and supporting the right of a US ally to exist. On a personal level, I am horrified by the devastating loss of life and call for a permanent ceasefire so that the slaughter of innocent civilians in Palestine and Israel will come to an end. – LINDA FEATHERSTON

MR. SPEAKER: Nobody should deny the fact that Hamas is a terrorist organization, and it committed the most horrific war crimes against the people of Israel. Israel has a right to defend itself. However, this resolution does not address the ongoing conflict and didn't go far enough in condemning antisemitism in our country. I vote no on **HR 6030** - SUSAN RUIZ

MR. SPEAKER: I vote yes on this resolution, **HR 6030**. I'm disappointed that this resolution is so limited. Antisemitism did not begin with Hamas and while we condemn their terrorism today, we also need to condemn all attacks against innocent civilians whether they reside in Israel or Gaza, or here at home. This conflict is undoubtedly complex, but one thing is clear: any death from war is a tragedy. An immediate ceasefire is the only way forward to protect the lives of both Israelis and Palestinians, and we must protect our Jewish community and all historically marginalized groups from violence based on hate or religious bigotry. – HEATHER MEYER, VALDENIA WINN, LYNN MELTON

MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

Announcing adoption of **SR 1728**, a resolution relating to the organization of the 2024 Senate and the selection of the following officers:

Ty Masterson, President,
Rick Wilborn, Vice President,
Larry Alley, Majority Leader,
Dinah Sykes, Minority Leader,
Corey Carnahan, Secretary,
Don Cackler, Sergeant-at-Arms, and awaits the pleasure of the House of Representatives.

On motion of Rep. Croft the House adjourned pro forma until 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 9, 2024.

JENNY HAUGH, JULIA WERNER, *Journal Clerks.*

SUSAN W. KANNARR, *Chief Clerk.*

