

# Kansas State Nurses Association Legislative Update



**May 2016**  
*2016 Kansas Legislative Session, Number 4*



The Legislature is scheduled to return to Topeka on June 1st to officially adjourn the spring 2016 session. This is called Sine-Die. Go to this link to get an overview of all legislative activity, [http://kslegislature.org/li/m/pdf/kansas\\_legislative\\_procedure.pdf](http://kslegislature.org/li/m/pdf/kansas_legislative_procedure.pdf). Or you can go to the Kansas Legislature website and click on Bills & Laws to locate specific bills if you know the bill number.



On this website, you can locate your senator and representative. Click on the tabs across the top of the page (house, senate, legislators, etc), then click on “roster” to find your legislator. Click on his/her name and you will have access to bills

sponsored and their voting record. This information will assist you in making a decision on whether to retain or not retain the individual who is representing your interests in the Statehouse.

## **HB 2615 The Final Brief, Introduction**

HB 2615 would amend and create law regarding charitable healthcare providers, the Acupuncture Practice Act and the Physical Therapy Practice Act, the Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board, the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact, and the Independent Practice of Midwifery Act. The bill would be effective upon publication in the statute book, unless otherwise noted.

This bill was passed by both chambers and is waiting to be signed by the governor. There was contentious discussion in the conference committee regarding this bill and several other bills, demands and bargaining being made. With regard to SB 402 independent practice for midwives and the anti-abortion verbiage inserted, it probably would never have passed either chamber if it had

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For more information, visit the following websites: [ksnurses.com](http://ksnurses.com) and [kslegislature.org](http://kslegislature.org) The *Legislative Update* is published online without charge by the Kansas State Nurses Association. To access this issue and former issues, go to [ksnurses.com](http://ksnurses.com) and click on the Legislative tab. For additional information, please contact KSNA at 785-233-8638 x300 or [ksna@ksna.net](mailto:ksna@ksna.net). KSNA is located at 1109 SW Topeka Blvd., Topeka, Kansas 66612-1602. Fax is 785-233-5222.

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## Legislative Update

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not been included in the “bundled” bill. The outcome is that nurse midwives must seek dual licensure from the Board of Nursing and the Board of Healing Arts to have independent practice. It does not prevent midwives from continuing to practice as they have been with a collaborative agreement with a physician. Only one license is required, that being from the KSBN.

The practice of bundling bills by legislators requires careful monitoring because a bill that is unlikely to pass as a “stand alone” can be combined with another or several bills that are desirable. This allows



for the “weak” bill to pass on the coat-tails of a more popular bill.

**Status of the “No number bill”** that was brought to you in April. This was the proposal to bring the Board of Nursing and the Board of Healing Arts under one director by Rep. Dan Hawkins. Rep. Hawkins has requested and received one day for a committee to develop this bill sometime this summer. What is driving this proposal is not known. We continue to be on high alert to any developments regarding this proposal.

**This is election year**, all members of the Senate and the House are up for re-election. It is imperative that each one of us review the voting records of those in office and learn what his/her position is on issues that impact you, your profession, your family, and your community. So what can you do?

- Learn who the candidates are locally, such as

who is campaigning for city or county commission.

- Learn who the candidates are for state offices.
- Read your local newspaper to get a feel for the issues.
- Get involved with the county party activities—they will welcome you and the degree of involvement is up to you.
- Support your candidate(s) of choice:

Volunteer to

- Make phone calls on his/her behalf
- Walk door to door to encourage voting
- Walk in parades with your candidate—these are fun activities
- Host or co-host “Meet and Greets” for the candidate
- Bake cookies for campaign events

Donate to their campaign:

Five dollars really do help!

Arrange for candidate speaking engagements:

Show up, be present at candidate events.

Vote:

Realize that elections are won locally first!

## Information about voting:

### *How will you Vote?*

As a Kansas voter, you may cast a ballot at your local polling place on election day; you may cast an advance ballot; if you are in the military serving abroad, you may cast a federal service ballot; or, in a few special cases, you might cast a president-only ballot. Go to [www.voteks.org](http://www.voteks.org) for more information and instructions for the different types of ballots.

### *What Photo Identification is Valid for Voting?*

State law requires that all voters show photo identification each time they vote. Acceptable forms of identification include driver’s license or nondriver’s ID card, a concealed carry handgun license, U.S. passport, government employee ID, military ID, student ID, public assistance ID or Indian tribe ID (see [www.getVoterID.com](http://www.getVoterID.com) for details and exceptions).

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***How do you make certain your Vote counts?***

Be sure to have proper identification with you when going to vote. This will ensure that you are able to vote a regular ballot. Each polling place will have specific instructions for the method of voting.

***Can I Register At The Polls On Election Day?***

NO. Kansas does not provide Same Day Voter Registration. You must register to vote by the voter registration deadline in order to vote in an election. If you miss the voter registration deadline for an election you should contact your local election office.

***Can I leave work to vote?***

YES. Any registered voter may leave work for a period of two hours to vote. If the polls are open before or after the work shift, however, the voter may only take such time off that, when added to the amount of time before or after work that the polls are open, does not exceed two hours.

***When are the polls open for voting?***

State law requires that polling places open at 7 a.m. and close at 7 p.m. on election day; however, the county may open the polls earlier and close them later. All voters who are in line at 7 p.m. are allowed to vote.

***What are your rights and responsibilities?***

Be sure to know your rights and responsibilities when voting. This information is posted at each polling place on election day. For more information visit [www.voteks.org](http://www.voteks.org).

**2016 Election Dates & Deadlines:  
State Primary Election is August 2**

- July 12 Last day to register to vote in state primary
- July 13 First day for advance/early voting
- July 29 Last day to request absentee ballot by mail

- August 1 Last day for advance/early voting in person
- August 2 Last day for absentee ballots; must be received by 12 noon

**General Election is November 8**

- October 18 Last day to register to vote in general election
- October 19 First day for advance/early voting
- November 4 Last day to request absentee ballot by mail
- November 7 Last day for advance/early voting in person
- November 8 Last day for absentee ballots; must be received by close of polls or 7 p.m.

