

Kansas Chapter American Academy of Pediatrics Public Policy Report

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MALLORY LUTZ
LITTLE GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

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Introduction

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- LGR is long-standing government relations and advocacy firm.
- Experience representing interests of healthcare field, public schools, local governments, and business on legislative and administrative remedies.
- <https://lgrkansas.com/>
- Seventh session as consultant with the Kansas Chapter.
- Thank you for allowing us to work with you.

Overview

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- Advocacy.
- 2022 Session.
- Highlights What Passed.
- Highlights What Failed.
- Big Picture Issues.
- Upcoming Elections and Issues.
- Wrap Up and Q&A.

2022 Session Strategy

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- Maintain engagement on issues.
- Weekly reports during Session.
- Weekly policy briefing and discussion on Fridays.
- Engagement with peer organizations to coordinate advocacy and testimony.
- Represent AAP in ongoing collaborative legislative activities.

Legacy Issues Prior to 2022

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- 2021 issues were driven by anti-schools, anti-mask; anti-public health, anti-vaccinations, anti-Governor.
 - Four main topics:
 - Constitutional amendment on abortion.
 - Done: Constitutional amendment on August 2022 ballot.
 - Rewrite Kansas Emergency Management Act and emergency powers.
 - Done: Gives almost all power to elected officials, reduces local public health authority.
 - Pass tax reduction bill the Governor vetoed three times.
 - Done: Passed over Governor's veto.
 - Fund schools, non-public schools push.
 - Continued efforts to expand non-public school funding.
- 2022 were expected to focus on recovery, redistricting, and health.

2022 What Did Not Happen

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- Medicaid expansion.
- Vaccination changes.
- Various weapons-related issues, red-flag laws, legal age, prohibition against healthcare questions regarding weapons.
- Medical cannabis.

Legislation Passed 2022

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- Medicaid pediatric rate increase \$2.9 million.
- Extended Medicaid post-partum coverage to twelve months.
- APRN HB 2279. Expanded scope of practice. Removes collaborative practice agreement, but conflicts and legal challenges regarding "practice of medicine." Rules and regulations pending and will be legislation in 2023.
- CARE Providers: Policy and funding included as one-year budget agreement. Creates statewide trained healthcare providers to perform child abuse review and evaluation. HB 2632 original bill passed the House.
- SB 19 implements 988 suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline in Kansas with \$10 million.
- HB 2106, the gradual reduction of the state sales tax on food.
- HB 2448 SNAP work/training requirements. Passed over veto.
- HB 2387: Prohibits any changes, as well as issuance of an RFP, for Medicaid MCO contracts until January 2023.

Legislative Failures 2022

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- SB 34 Vetoes: Would prohibit governmental entities and public officials from requiring masks in response to any contagious/infectious disease; limits KDHE authority to enforce quarantine and student inoculation requirements if not fully authorized by the FDA.
- SB 55 Vetoes: Require that female student athletic teams only include members who are biologically female.
- Governor vetoed and override failed again.
- SB 199 Vetoes: Short-term limited duration health plans.
- HB 2280 (expanding religious exemptions; off-label prescribing) did not advance.

Big Picture 2022

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- Election year shaped everything. Redistricting impacted two congressional districts: Kansas City metro and Big First, from Colorado to Lawrence.
- Panasonic battery plant.
- Public health authority: masks and vaccines no change.
- Cash rich budget with surpluses over \$2 billion allowed significant spending, rainy day funds, debt retirement, rate increases (such as Medicaid pediatric rates).
- Education--non-public schools support advanced, critical race theory and DEI issues targeted but no legal change.

Healthcare-related issues going into 2023

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- Care Provider Network permanent legislation.
- Mid-level scope of practice legislation (HB 2279), implementation and rules and regulations will remain alive for 2023. Lack of clarity as to scope of practice.
- HB 2184 (later Sub for SB 158): Medical marijuana. Passed the House, interim committee this fall.
- Medicaid expansion?
- Implications of a potential change in administration?

Potential Changes in 2023

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- Impact of constitutional amendment vote.
- 2022 All Kansas House of Representatives up for reelection, more conservative leaning, unless amendment voters remain active.
- Derek Schmidt (R) and Dennis Pyle (I) make the Governor's race a toss-up.
- 2022 Kansas U.S. Congressional Representatives up for reelection. Davids (D) vs. Adkins (R) in more conservative district.
- One Kansas U.S. Senate Seat up for reelection (Sen. Moran (R) vs. Holland (D)).
- 2022 elections will impact healthcare, education policy for decades.

Questions and Wrap Up

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