

HAWVER'S CAPITOL REPORT

Reporting the politics & government of Kansas



»» PRINT (newsletter only)

»» SEND TO A FRIEND

HAWVER'S

FLASH

Hawver News
Company, LLC
TOPEKA, KS

Vickie &
Martin Hawver
OWNERS

#76 in 2013

Sponsored Links

*Please click on
advertisers' banners
in main column
& sponsored links
below and see
where you go...*



What's happening
in Kansas health
& health policy?
Take a moment to
check out the
KHI News Service:
www.khi.org

**KANSAS
CONTRACTORS
ASSOCIATION**

Keep T-WORKS Fully Funded

INVEST IN
TOMORROW'S
WORKFORCE

OPPOSE HB 2371

**PINEGAR, SMITH
& ASSOCIATES, INC.**

JOHN PINEGAR DOUG SMITH
(785) 235-6245

5:14:52 PM
Friday, March 08, 2013

Democrats want into mediation

House and Senate Democratic leaders said this afternoon they are going to file a motion, probably Monday, to intervene in the Kansas Supreme Court-ordered mediation of the Gannon v. State school finance lawsuit.

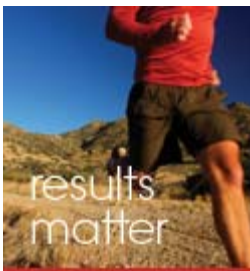
They said they believe that the mediation panel—and no mediator has been identified yet—should hear from legislators about the state's financial problems. House Minority Leader **Paul Davis**, D-



HEALTH CARE REFORM
Learn more ...

Sign up for
eNewsletter.

BlueCross
BlueShield
of Kansas
Independent • Member Owned®
O.1105



Terry Humphrey
Public Affairs Group
785.221.8215
www.terryhumphrey.com

access. influence. results.



Education that
goes to work.

Kansas
Community
Colleges
>>> Learn More

Lawrence, said at a press conference that he doesn't believe Gov. **Sam Brownback** will appropriately represent the state because he has no authority to make appropriations.

Senate Minority Leader **Anthony Hensley**, D-Topeka, said he and Davis would bring to the mediation panel information about the condition of the state's budget. Hensley also urged legislative Republicans, or at least the State Finance Council, to seek to participate in the mediation.

Hensley said Brownback doesn't represent the state's interest in the school finance issue, and said the governor has merely inserted himself into the discussion for no apparent reason.

Hensley and Davis said the State Finance Council—made up of the governor, House speaker, Senate president, House and Senate majority leaders and minority leaders and chairs of the House Appropriations and Senate Ways and Means committees—should be represented at the mediation table.

The theoretical cost of the Gannon v. State lawsuit decision delivered in mid-January by a three-judge district court panel in Topeka is about \$440 million. Davis said the state can't afford that due to massive tax cuts approved last session, but hesitated to say he would bargain the successful plaintiffs down on their judgment.

He also said he's not optimistic that the mediation "will lead us anywhere," and he expects that after the mediation a trial to the Supreme Court might produce a verdict by late fall of this year.

House Speaker **Ray Merrick**, R-Stilwell, said this afternoon that he doesn't plan to seek a seat at the arbitration table. "We're not defendants," he said.

"I'm interested in reviewing what they file next week. We all want a solution to the education problems facing our state."

KTA-KDOT bill forwarded

The House, after nearly two hours of debate, forwarded to a final action vote next week what appears to be a date, not a marriage, between the



Kansas Department of Transportation and the Kansas Turnpike Authority.

The measure came from Gov. **Sam Brownback's** State of the State speech and budget, in which he proposed folding KTA into KDOT, and reaping about \$15 million in savings—but never got clear exactly where money would be saved.

The pared-down measure now just provides for cooperation between the two separate agencies and the possibility that they might save money on something.

The bill picked up a key amendment from Rep. **Julie Menghini**, D-Pittsburg, that would allow joint KDOT-KTA construction activities within 10 miles of the turnpike. The concept was that KDOT not take toll-generated funds from the KTA to spend throughout the state highway system.

Menghini's amendment, with support from Rep. **Vern Swanson**, R-Clay Center, who carried the bill in House debate, was adopted 76-41 and the bill was forwarded to final action.

Key to the issue is that the bill debated today was a mere shadow of the proposal by Brownback, doesn't show \$15 million in savings or transfers that the governor proposed, and merely talks about cooperation. It could have been a resolution...

More information below...



State to aid pre-term birth reduction

Kansas Secretary of Health and Environment

MARIAN CLINIC

Marian Clinic is a community based safety net clinic that offers medical and dental services for the uninsured who have no other means to obtain health care.

The Clinic is an affiliate of the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Health System.

Grants and donations provide funding for the Clinic.

If you would like to help provide "healthier lives for the uninsured" and find out about our services contact:

www.marianclinic.org

**This ad space
donated by Hawver
News Co LLC.**

Robert Moser said at a press conference today that his agency will assist the March of Dimes in an effort to reduce pre-term births in Kansas.

He said pre-term births can produce children who have health problems and often require additional care.

The March of Dimes said pre-term births amount to 11.2% of all Kansas live births, and the goal is to reduce that rate by 8%, which is about 350 babies.

Pre-term is considered a 37-week pregnancy instead of a conventional 40-week pregnancy. The state effort includes education of physicians and pregnant women.

Gun lobbying bill to Senate

The Senate Elections Committee has sent to the full Senate a bill that would prohibit any state money from being used to lobby for gun control before any governmental body.

The measure, backed early in the session by gun rights interests, basically prohibits use of state funds to pay salaries or expenses or for any activity related to guns and any other legal consumer product before Congress, the Legislature or any local governing body.

Former Sen. Jack Janssen dies

Former Kansas State Sen. **Jack Janssen**, 89, Lyons, died Thursday in the Rice County Hospital.

Janssen served in the Kansas Senate from 1965-1980.

The family will receive friends from 4 to 6 p.m. Sunday at Birzer Funeral Home, 214 W. Avenue S., Lyons KS 67554. Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday at Celebration Centre, 1145 E. Highway 56, Lyons.

Memorial contributions in Jack Janssen's name are suggested to Friends of the Animals or Celebration Centre, in care of the funeral home.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE HAWVER'S CAPITOL REPORT

NEWS SERVICE ARE:

- ***Hawver's Capitol Report NEWSLETTER***, e-mailed usually weekly during the regular legislative session & 1 to 4 times a month the rest of the year.
- ***Hawver's Capitol Report FLASH***, the breaking news/daily news/etc. bulletin e-mailed as warranted.
- ***Hawver Legislative Guide***, the comprehensive hard-copy guide snail-mailed annually (links also included & updated in ongoing *Hawver's Capitol Report NEWSLETTER* editions).

WARNING:

- It is illegal to forward or otherwise distribute (this includes not posting on a website) this bulletin without permission except for the occasional use of *Send to a Friend*; if you have a number of people with whom you want to share a particular Report, please e-mail politics@hawvernews.com for specific permission. **This e-mail is intended ONLY for the ONE e-mail address to which it is originally addressed.** If you receive this e-mail otherwise and/or believe that Hawver's Capitol Report FLASHES in whole or in part are being illegally forwarded, please contact politics@hawvernews.com
- Copyright © 2013 Hawver News Company LLC.

CONTACTS:

- To reach Hawver News, e-mail politics@hawvernews.com
- For more information on Hawver publications, please visit www.hawvernews.com
- For subscription information, please visit <http://hawvernews.com/hcro/subscribe.htm>
- For trial subscription information, please visit <http://hawvernews.com/hcro/trialsub.htm>
- Visit us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/hawvernewscompany>

