



Saturday, April 27, 2019

Welcome to the KDP Weekly Rundown – the Kansas Democratic Party’s update of the biggest things going on in the Kansas Legislature. What are we focused on this week? Medicaid expansion, the upcoming census, and more!

MEDICAID EXPANSION

• *What's happening?*

A possible deal on Medicaid expansion appears to have stalled after Gov. Laura Kelly and Republican lawmakers met on Wednesday. Republican leaders have continued with their delay tactics, insisting that they need more time to study the issue. Keep in mind that there have been over 300 published studies and reports on the positive impact of expansion in other states. Additionally, Families USA, a national health insurance advocacy group, recently released a cost analysis of Medicaid expansion in Kansas. The analysis concluded that the budget impact of expansion could range from a cost of roughly \$680,000 to a surplus of \$7 million. In the most likely scenarios, expansion will be budget neutral. The state senate is expected to debate Medicaid expansion when it returns from the spring hiatus on May 1.

• *What can I do to help?*

Keep contacting your state senator! You can look up your state senator [here](#). Several groups are also organizing in-district events to advocate for Medicaid expansion; get involved [here](#). Expansion advocates have also organized a [rally](#) on May 1 at the state capital.

• *Where can I learn more?*

- [Kansas Medicaid expansion talks stall as Kelly and GOP lawmakers break off meeting](#). *Kansas City Star*, April 23, 2019.
- [Talks break down on Medicaid expansion in Kansas](#) *Kansas Public Radio*, April 25, 2019.
- [As Medicaid expansion talks falter, new study predicts little impact on Kansas budget](#). *Topeka Capital-Journal*, April 24, 2019.

2020 CENSUS

• *What's happening?*

Gov. Kelly established the Kansas Complete County Committee through [Executive Order 19-07](#). This committee is focused on making sure that every Kansan is counted in the 2020 Census. Brian McClendon and Joyce Warshaw were named as co-chairs of the

Committee. McClendon is a professor at the University of Kansas and former Vice President of Google and Uber. Warshaw is a Dodge City Commissioner and serves on the Board of Directors for the Kansas League of Municipalities. An accurate count of the state's population is incredibly important. Census population totals determine how many seats we have in the U.S. House of Representatives. These totals are also used to redraw state legislative and other districts. You can learn more about the census [here](#).

• **Where can I learn more?**

- [Kansas launches collaborative effort to boost 2020 census participation](#). *Topeka Capital-Journal*, April 23, 2019.
- [Kansas governor aims to spur 2020 Census participation](#). *Associated Press*, April 23, 2019.
- [Every resident should count in Census \(Editorial\)](#). *Topeka Capital-Journal*, April 24, 2019.

FIRST 100 DAYS

• **What's happening?**

Gov. Kelly celebrated her first 100 days in office on Wednesday. “When I gave my inaugural address on January 14, I stood in front of three banners with the words: equality, education and opportunity,” Kelly said in a [press release](#). “These are the principles that have guided my first 100 days in office. And they are the principles that will guide us as we work to invest in our future and grow our economy.” There have been some major victories: signing a bipartisan school funding bill into law, announcing plans to invest \$160 million into the state's transportation system, and establishing new transparency initiatives at the Department for Children and Families.

• **Where can I learn more?**

- [‘I’ve been there, done that’: Laura Kelly navigates GOP skepticism to score early wins](#). *Kansas City Star*, April 23, 2019.
- [Kelly reviews progress at Day 100](#). *Kansas Public Radio*, April 24, 2019.
- [Governor Kelly marks 100 days in office](#). *KSNT-TV*, April 24, 2019.

Onward,
KDP Team

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