

Kansas bolsters move-over protections

Lawmakers, gov approve \$4.6M bond issue for Greeley Co. schools

Tim Carpenter
The Kansas Reflector

TOPEKA - Gov. Laura Kelly signed legislation imposing a \$75 fine for highway motorists who refused to take precautions when approaching stationary vehicles displaying hazard warning lights.

The legislation was unanimously passed by

the Kansas House and Senate.

The governor completed the process of embedding Senate Bill 8 in Kansas statute after it was adopted 119-0 by the House and 39-0 by the Senate.

Drivers will be required to proceed with caution and change lanes away from the stopped vehicle - if possible - depending on traffic and weather.

Kansas previously imposed move-over mandates for emergency personnel and expanded that statute to include stopped utility, road service and

This bill will improve driver behavior by creating consistency with other move-over bills for law enforcement, first responders and utility vehicles among others.

Rep. Shannon Francis (R-Liberal)

tow vehicles displaying hazard lights.

The latest change applied the safety edict to all vehicles operating on a highway.

The Kansas Department of Transportation reported 994 empty vehicles were struck while on the side of a state road from 2018 to 2023. Those crashes resulted in eight fatalities and 25 suspected serious

injuries.

KDOT reported 82 crashes within that time frame with someone inside a vehicle stopped on the side of the road. Those crashes resulted in two fatalities and four suspected serious injuries.

“This bill will improve driver behavior by creating consistency with other move-over bills for law enforcement,

first responders and utility vehicles among others,” said Rep. Shannon Francis (R-Liberal).

School Bond Affirmed

Meanwhile, Kelly signed Senate Bill 2 to validate approval of the \$4.6 million school bond passed by voters of USD 200 in Greeley County during May 2024.

The 25-year bond issue was developed to pay for construction of a school gymnasium, locker room and playground for the 230-student district on the Colorado border.

Attorney General Kris

Kobach sought to nullify the decision of voters on a technicality. Kobach said the bond vote should be invalidated because the local school board didn't comply with a law mandating the public be notified through notices on a county website.

Greeley County, which has less than 1,200 residents, didn't operate a county website and state law didn't mandate the county do so.

The public vote on the bonds was highlighted in the local newspaper in articles and letters to the editor.

Last minute legislative bill would hike fees for hybrid SUV owners

Stephen Koranda
Kansas News Service

A bill in the Kansas Legislature aims to help fund the state's roads by adding additional fees for electric vehicles and hybrids, but the proposal would put a much larger fee on hybrid trucks than similar hybrid sport utility vehicles.

Under one plan, owners of hybrid trucks, which include both a gas engine and an electric motor, would pay more than double the fees paid by hybrid SUV owners.

Automakers often use the same basic building blocks for different vehicles to increase cost effi-

ciency. Trucks and SUVs often are built on the same basic chassis and share many parts.

The bill as written would apply the larger fee to popular trucks like the Toyota Tacoma and Ford Maverick.

The disparity would land right as automakers are releasing more models into the hybrid truck and SUV markets. Ford and Toyota currently sell hybrid trucks, with more models likely coming from other manufacturers.

As more Kansans buy those new vehicles, more could see the disparity affect their costs.

Rep. Nick Hoheisel (R-Wichita) said the pro-

posal would replace the existing \$40 truck registration fee with a \$125 fee for hybrid trucks and \$200 for fully electric trucks.

The focus on fully electric trucks is because large, heavy electric trucks including the Tesla Cybertruck, Ford F-150 Lightning and Rivian R1T cause significant wear and tear to the roads, but don't pay fuel taxes that help fund road repairs and construction.

“We're just trying to find parity between our gas vehicles and our EVs so everybody's paying their fair share of the road,” Hoheisel told the Kansas News Service.

But the way the bill is written, owners of hybrid

trucks would pay \$125 annually, while owners of very similar SUVs built on the same platform would pay \$50 under the Senate's proposal and \$85 under the House plan.

When asked about that disparity, Hoheisel said lawmakers are still trying to determine the appropriate level of fees.

“It's not set in stone. It's just a starting point,” Hoheisel said.

The bill also targets trucks, both hybrid and fully electric, because a past law that put higher registration fees on electrified vehicles was written in a way that ultimately didn't apply to trucks.

(See HYBRID on page 23)

Scott County Commission Agenda Thursday, April 3 County Courthouse

4:00 County business

4:30 Register of Deeds Debbie Turner
Property fraud alert program

4:45 Public Works Director J.C. Amack

Agenda may change before the meeting. Contact County Clerk Marie Allen for an updated agenda (620-872-2420) or visit www.scott.kansasgov.com

Scott Co. LEC Report

Week of March 18-24 Police Department

March 19: 2:23 p.m. Johnny Koch, 46, Scott City, was arrested on two out-of-county warrants.

March 20: 8:40 a.m. Michael LeBlanc, 56, Scott City, was arrested on a bond violation.

March 22: 1:22 p.m. A theft report was taken at 1702 Main Street.

Register of Deeds

Chad and Suzanne Griffith to Rodric and Jill Berning, SE4 of 9-18-34.

Steve and Kay Schmitt Trust to Daren and Jennifer York Trust, south 26 ft. of Lot 4 and all of Lot 6 and north 31 ft. of Lot 8, Blk. 1, Thomas Addition.

Northwest Mortgage to Chad and Suzanne Griffith, E2 of SW4 and SE4, except a tract, in 29-17-31.

Kyley Whittaker to Elijah Amack, Lots 9 and 12, Blk 54, Original Town.

Bar X, Inc., to Steven Compton, N2 of NE4 of 8-19-31.

Lonny and Colleen Dearden Revocable Trust to Joel and Calista Miller, SE4 of 26-16-32.

Public Notice

(First published in The Scott County Record Thurs., March 13, 2025; last published Thurs., March 27, 2025)3t

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SCOTT COUNTY, KANSAS In the Matter of the Estate of: Gary Wayne Allaman, deceased

Case No. SC 2023PR000010 (Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59)

NOTICE OF HEARING THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on the 5th day of March, 2025, a Petition for Final Settlement was filed in this Court by Troy Charles, duly appointed and qualified and acting Administrator of the Estate of Gary Wayne Allaman, deceased, praying Petitioner's acts be approved; account be settled and allowed; the heirs be determined, and the Estate be assigned to the persons entitled thereto; the Court find the allowances requested for attorneys fee and expenses

are reasonable and should be allowed; the costs be determined and ordered paid; the administration of the Estate be closed; upon the filing of Receipts, the Petitioner be finally discharged as the Administrator of the Estate of Gary Wayne Allaman, deceased, and the Petitioner and the surety on Petitioner's bond be released from further liability.

You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before the 4th day of April, 2025, at 11:00 a.m., in the District Court, Scott County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

Troy Charles
Petitioner

Allan L. Hurlburt
S. C. No. 09249
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 505
Sharon Springs, Ks. 67758
(785) 852-4246
Attorney for the Petitioner



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DON'T KNOW.**

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