

**From:** [Oral Health Kansas](#)  
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*Our Mission:  
To improve oral health  
in Kansas through  
advocacy,  
public awareness  
and education.*

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## Record-breaking Legislative Session Adjourns

Oral Health Kansas lobbyist Stuart Little provides this review of the conclusion of the 2013 Legislative Session. For more information or to get involved with Oral Health Kansas' Advocacy Committee, please contact [info@oralhealthkansas.org](mailto:info@oralhealthkansas.org).

### Overview

The 2013 legislative session concluded on June 2 after 2:00 AM, the latest date a Kansas Legislature has met since the 1860s. The Legislature will return on June 20th for the ceremonial end of session meeting. They will convene again in January 2014. The Legislature passed the Governor's budget and his revenue plan with minor adjustments. The budget has a few issues and the tax plan will increase state tax collections by \$777 million during the next five years. Provided the state economy holds steady or grows, the revenue can fund the budget until 2018.

### Budget

The Legislature approved the Governor's two-year budget with only minor adjustments. The regents system took about \$20 million in reductions and most state agencies lost funding for salary increases, which saved the state approximately \$30 million. These cuts will impact state agencies in many ways, but of particular importance are a total of about \$5.5 million to corrections, which likely

## Page

A new Facebook page about the Extended Care Permit (ECP) for dental hygienists is available. The page was created by ECP hygienist and Dental Champion Patty Martinette in order to connect ECP Hygienists in Kansas and Missouri. The goal of the new page is to share information about how the permits are being used, as well as to establish community contacts to expand the use of the permits.

Join the [Facebook page](#) and spread the word about this valuable forum to promote the ECP model.

## Dental Champions Corner:

Kansas Dental Association launches a new app!



a program of Oral Health Kansas, Inc.

KDA Assistant Executive Director Greg Hill (Dental Champions Class 2) announced last week that the KDA has launched a new downloadable app.

may be passed down to community programs and community supervision. The corrections agency will have to determine how to implement those funding cuts. The budget funds K-12 education at a flat rate with a very small increase in FY 15, the second budget year. The budget in Substitute for SB 171 passed with the minimum required votes, 63 in the House and 21 in the Senate. The only real grumbling, besides partisan conflicts with the budget were the cuts to higher education, corrections, and the failure to include language carving out intellectual and developmental disabilities from the state's Medicaid reform program, KanCare.



## Revenue

The 2013 Legislature had to address the large future year hole in state revenue due to the small business tax reduction package that passed during the 2012 session. The Governor's proposal was to pay for that tax plan by continuing the current .6 percent sales tax schedule to be eliminated on June 30, 2013 as well as eliminate the state home mortgage interest deduction. The Governor got a great deal of what he wanted.

The final tax plan in Senate Sub for HB 2059 passed in the House 69-45 and the Senate 24-13.

The approved tax/revenue plan reduces current statewide sales tax from 6.3 to 6.15 percent, although the rate was scheduled to drop to 5.7 percent on July 1. Between now and 2018 individual income tax rates will be reduced for the lowest earners from 3 percent to 2.3 percent. The top tax bracket will be reduced from 4.9 percent to 3.9 percent. The new law will also reduce by one-half all itemized deductions (except for charitable deductions) by 2018. After 2018, any state revenue collections in excess of 2 percent over the prior year will be used to make additional income tax reductions.

The plan that passed supports most of the Governor's plan, continues to reduce individual income tax rates and pays for it by keeping seventy-five percent of the sales tax and reductions down by one-half all itemized deductions except for charitable contributions. The revenue works to fund the budget but there will be lots of political fighting during the 2014 session and 2014 elections whether the tax burden was increased, reduced, or shifted.

The new app will bring together content from the KDA website, along with social media from Facebook, Twitter, KDATVHD YouTube Channel, and Instagram.

The [KDA app](#) is free and available to both member and non-members. To download, simply search Kansas Dental Association in your app store.

## 2013 Oral Health Kansas Conference

Join us in November as we celebrate Oral Health Kansas' 10th anniversary with continuing education and networking opportunities!

Brush with



Johnson County  
Community College

### Legislation

In particular, Oral Health Kansas was monitoring several pieces of legislation during the 2013 session:

#### 1. House Bill 2025: Bob Bethell Joint Committee on Health and Community Based Services and KanCare Oversight

- Passed and Governor signed
- Adds oversight of KanCare program to the former Joint Committee on Home and Community Based Services
- Specifies requirements for receiving information regarding KanCare Medicaid program

#### 2. Medicaid Expansion

- The Kansas Legislature and the Governor never discussed in great detail the possibility of Kansas expanding Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act. The Governor never completely excluded the idea and folks watched the actions of a variety of other states but they never enacted any expansion
- Expansion of Medicaid eligibility would have added an estimated 125,000 Kansans to the Medicaid program with federal government paying most of the costs. It was further anticipated that expansion would bring billions of dollars and thousands of health care jobs to Kansas
- The final budget bill included language what would prohibit the Governor from implementing Medicaid expansion without the approval of the Legislature
- This may remain an issue during the 2014 legislative session

#### 3. Developmental Disabilities Carve Out

When KanCare was implemented some specific non-medical services for the intellectually and developmentally disabled population were carved out from the KanCare managed care program. That carve out was scheduled to end on January 1, 2014. The legislature heard a bill, but never passed it, to continue the carve out. In the final budget bill, language was included that provided for additional oversight and education under KanCare but IDD were not carved out.

### Wrap Up

During the long, final veto session, the Legislature did very little additional work except for the budget and tax plan. In the coming weeks, we should get a better sense of how budget cuts will be implemented. There should be no interim legislative hearings until at least July as the Legislative Coordinating Council will need to meet and approve topics for study for the summer and fall.

November 7-8

## Dental CEs to be Offered

Oral Health Kansas will offer a special continuing education session for Extended Care Permit dental hygienists and other dental professionals as a post-conference session on November 8, 2013. The Oral Health Kansas Conference on November 7-8 will present a variety of continuing education opportunities, and this year a special, in-depth session for ECP hygienists will be added to the agenda. ECP hygienists will have the chance to learn more about how to effectively serve people with disabilities during this session featuring Dr. Ray Lyons.

**Save the date and watch for more details!**

## Did You Know?

The first nylon bristled toothbrush with a plastic handle was invented in 1938.

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## Kansas nurse to present at American Public Health Association

The American Public Health Association (APHA) will include a poster about oral health from a Kansas nurse at the upcoming 141st APHA Annual Meeting. Susan Parsons, RN, PhD, at the Wichita State School of Nursing, will present her poster entitled "Collaborative oral health education to promote oral health care for a special population, older adults."



Dr. Parsons partners with Kathy Trilli, RDH, BSDH, ECP II, faculty at the school's Dental Hygiene Program to conduct classes and develop projects on oral health for older adults in long-term care facilities. Two articles on her studies that engage nurses in oral health services for older adults have been published in nursing journals: Collaborative Oral Health Education For Caregivers In an Assisted Living Facility and Oral Care and Ventilator Associated Pneumonia (VAP): An Integrated Review of the Literature.

## Traveling Sugary Beverage Display

Currently the Oral Health Kansas traveling library drink displays are on display at the [GraceMed](#), Manhattan Area Technical College, and the United Methodist Mexican-American Ministries' Garden City Dental Clinic.



[StarSmilez](#)

Join Our Mailing List!



If you are interested in having the drink display on display in your area, send an email to [Tanya](#).

One drink display is available for a host in July!

Contact us now to make plans to host the display this fall too.

If you have an idea, story or suggestion for a Oral Health Kansas Weekly Wednesday Update please contact us at [info@oralhealthkansas.org](mailto:info@oralhealthkansas.org).

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