

State of Kansas  
House of Representatives

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Daniel R. Hawkins  
House Majority Leader  
Representative, 100th District

July 23, 2021

Senator Ty Masterson, Chairperson  
Legislative Coordinating Council  
332-E State Capitol

Dear Chairperson Masterson:

I would like to request a special committee be appointed during the 2021 Interim to study the federal "30x30" conservation initiative, which proposes achieving the goal of conserving 30 percent of U.S. lands and waters by 2030.

The 2021 Special Committee on the 30x30 Conservation Initiative would also study the potential effects the "30x30" initiative may have on the State of Kansas, including, but not limited to, private property rights and effects on the agriculture industry, and potentially make recommendations to the 2022 Legislature on legislation.

The special committee would have a membership of 13, consisting of members of the House Committee on Agriculture, House Committee on Water, and Senate Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources.

I respectfully request the Legislative Coordinating Council authorize two meeting days for the special committee to complete its study.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel R. Hawkins". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Representative Dan Hawkins, Majority Leader  
Kansas House of Representatives

STATE OF KANSAS

**J. G. SCOTT**  
Director  
**MELISSA RENICK**  
Assistant Director for Research  
**AMY DECKARD**  
Assistant Director for Fiscal Affairs



**STAFF**  
LEGISLATIVE COORDINATING COUNCIL  
INTERIM COMMITTEES  
STANDING COMMITTEES  
**LEGISLATIVE INQUIRIES**

**KANSAS LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH DEPARTMENT**  
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July 23, 2021

Senator Ty Masterson, Chairperson  
Legislative Coordinating Council  
Room 332-E, Statehouse  
BUILDING MAIL

Dear Senator Masterson:

I respectfully request the Legislative Coordinating Council (LCC) appoint a 2021 Special Committee on Kansas Mental Health Modernization and Reform (2021 Special Committee) and approve a total of six meeting days during the 2021 Interim to continue the work begun by the 2020 Special Committee on Kansas Mental Health Modernization and Reform. I further respectfully request I be appointed to serve as chairperson for the 2021 Special Committee.

The 2020 Special Committee on Kansas Mental Health Modernization and Reform (2020 Special Committee) met on six meeting days during the 2020 Interim. In its *Report of the Special Committee on Kansas Mental Health Modernization and Reform to the 2021 Kansas Legislature*, the 2020 Special Committee requested the LCC and the Legislature “consider formation of a formal standing or joint committee to consider, address, and continue with the effort to address the longer-term goals and strategies incorporated in both the Special Committee’s and the adopted working groups’ reports.” The 2020 Special Committee recognized additional time was needed to continue not only this significant discussion but to work towards implementation strategies and longer-term system direction and transformation.

With the purpose in mind of continuing the work of the 2020 Special Committee, I am requesting a 2021 Special Committee be created with the continuing directives of the 2020 Special Committee, as follows: analyze the State’s behavioral health system to ensure that both inpatient and outpatient services are accessible in communities, review the capacity of the current behavioral health workforce, study the availability and capacity of crisis centers and substance abuse facilities, assess the impact of recent changes to state policies on the treatment of individuals with behavioral health needs, and make recommendations on steps needed to make Kansas a nationwide leader on behavioral health delivery, specifically focusing on how Kansas should modernize its behavioral health delivery system.

Further, as specified for the 2020 Special Committee, the 2021 Special Committee would be required to solicit input from the following:

- A Judicial Branch Court Services Officer recommended by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Kansas;
- A Judicial Branch Judge or Judges recommended by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Kansas;
- A representative recommended by the Commissioner of Education;
- A Kansas Department of Health and Environment cabinet official recommended by the Governor;
- One sheriff and one chief of police recommended by the Attorney General;
- A Children's Alliance of Kansas representative;
- A Kansas Association of Addiction Professionals drug and alcohol addiction treatment provider;
- An Association of Community Mental Health Centers of Kansas representative with clinical or medical expertise;
- A Kansas Hospital Association representative with clinical or medical expertise;
- A person with lived experience with mental illness or who has provided assistance to an individual living with a mental illness who is recommended by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
- A parent of a child with a mental illness who is recommended by the President of the Senate;
- A former or current superintendent of a Kansas state mental health hospital;
- A current executive director of a community mental health center recommended by the Association of Community Mental Health Centers of Kansas;
- A health insurance company representative recommended by the Commissioner of Insurance;
- A Kansas County and District Attorneys Association representative;
- A Kansas Health Information Network representative;
- The Medicaid Director for the State of Kansas; and
- The Chairperson of the Governor's Behavioral Health Services Planning Council.

To facilitate the continuing discussion, the preference would be for the same above-listed *ad hoc* members who served during the 2020 Interim. The *ad hoc* member list was amended to add a judge or judges.

I am also respectfully requesting authorization from the LCC to create four working groups to assist the 2021 Special Committee during the 2021 Interim; these would mirror the working groups authorized during the 2020 Interim. Authorization is also requested for staff of the Kansas Legislative Research Department, the Office of the Revisor of Statutes, and Legislative Office of Information Services to provide assistance to these working groups when requested.

As during the 2020 Interim, participation in the working groups would be voluntary and would include content experts in different fields affected by mental health topics, as well as members of the 2021 Special Committee. This request is not a request for additional meeting days, and no individuals would receive compensation for their participation in the working groups. The Kansas Health Institute has again agreed to facilitate and moderate the working groups and assist those groups in reporting back to the Special Committee.

The six meeting days requested for a 2021 Special Committee on Kansas Health Modernization and Reform would provide the 2021 Special Committee with additional time to continue discussion and work towards implementation of strategies and longer-term system direction and transformation.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

*Rep Brenda Landwehr P.P. JG*

Representative Brenda Landwehr,  
Chairperson  
2020 Special Committee on Kansas Mental  
Health Modernization and Reform

cc: Representative Ron Ryckman, Vice-chairperson  
Senator Dinah Sykes, Senate Minority Leader  
Representative Tom Sawyer, House Minority Leader  
J.G. Scott, Director Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Gordon Self, Revisor of Statutes  
Tom Day, Director, Legislative Administrative Services