

What is the Kansas Silver Haired Legislature?

The Kansas Silver Haired Legislature (SHL) is a unicameral legislature composed of 125 representatives. All are over 60 and are elected from their county residence. Johnson County has six (6) delegates. The legislature provides an educational experience in the political process and provides an opportunity to identify priority concerns of Kansas senior citizens. The SHL develops bills and resolutions which are presented to the Kansas Legislature and the Governor as recommendations for state policy.

What is the Purpose of Silver Haired Legislature?

- To Educate - Participation provides experience in the political process.
- To Inform - Actions of the SHL inform the public and the Kansas Legislature on concerns of the elderly.
- To Involve - The SHL provides all Kansas seniors a way to become involved.

What are the responsibilities of a Silver Haired Legislator?

1. Must be willing to represent the senior citizens in your constituency. Meet with Johnson County seniors on SHL legislation affecting the elderly.
2. Must be able to meet with other members of your delegation to help prepare proposed legislation to be presented at the Silver Haired Legislative Session.
3. Must be willing to attend a training session.
4. Must be able to attend the Silver Haired Legislature Session to be held in Topeka in October.
5. Must be able to follow up on the bills and help to secure sponsorship in the Kansas State Legislature.
6. Advocate for legislation introduced by the Silver Haired Legislature and take an active interest in the progress of the bills through the legislative process. Testify at hearings on SHL legislation.
7. Must be able to attend regular follow-up meetings throughout the year to determine status of bills, and participate in any procedures determined necessary to see them through to legislation.