



SILVER HAİRED LEGİSLATURE

The Kansas Silver Haired Legislature was formed in 1982, created by an act of Congress in 1969. This is a unicameral legislature composed of 125 representatives, one from each county with the exception of the larger counties having five additional. Representatives must be 60 or older and elected from their county of residence. Johnson County has six representatives. Elections are conducted by the Area Agency on Aging every two years.

Our purpose is to advocate for seniors and provide a voice at the state level with emphasis in educating our seniors about issues and steps to take for information on bills and resolutions; to advocate for the concerns of the older adults in the community; to provide seniors ways to become involved for meaningful issues.

The responsibilities of our members include:

- Advocating for seniors through our KSHL members to enlighten the Kansas Legislature about issues promoted by our Kansas Silver Haired Legislature;
- Testify at hearings about KSL advocated legislation;
- Meet with our county seniors about issues affecting seniors.

In mid-summer, we meet to define the issues presented by the eleven statewide PSA's and select those to be presented to the elected state Legislature. Since this is a statewide organization, not all issues pertain to all areas.

Our SHL statewide meeting is held in Topeka each October to finalize the resolutions and bills we will present to the Kansas Legislature in January, update our bylaws, policies and procedures and election credentials as well as presentations on relevant senior issues.

Johnson County Delegation

Katy Hoffman, Chair

Gary Scott, Vice Chair

Jeanie Adkins-Peine

Mary Penrose

Jerry Ireland

Bonita Hanson



The issues to be presented to the 2022 legislature are:

- Expansion of broadband across Kansas;
- Passage of Medicaid Expansion; *Support for KDOT Public Transportation Program;
- Continued full funding of the KPERS program by the State of Kansas;
- Support SB76 (Golden Years Bill) which advocates for property tax relief for qualified seniors;
- Support for Medical Cannabis;
- Grandparents rights bill to lower the age for qualifying grandparents to 40 years of age, and monetary reimbursement for those who take on guardianship of their grandchildren.

Our Johnson County delegation works closely with the County Area Agency on Aging to support aging needs. We have 129,927 seniors in our county. Let's continue to support us. Seniors Count!!!

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JOHNSON COUNTY SILVER HAİRED LEGİSLATORS - PSA 11

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