KLRD | Kansas Legislative Research Department
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Kansas Legislative Research Department—Staff Assignments
2026 Interim

Special/Select Committees	Staff
340B Program	Leighann Thone, Julia Kofoid
Application and Eligibility for Public Assistance Programs	Elizabeth Cohn, Julia Kofoid, Emily Watkins
Energy, Utilities, and Telecommunications	Nicole Bergman, Heather O'Hara, Hannah Reidell, Kate Smeltzer
Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services	Leighann Thone, Kyle Anderson, Elizabeth Cohn
Protecting Children from Online Harm	Natalie Nelson, Walt Nelson, Molly Pratt
Sexually Violent Predator Treatment Program Reform	Jillian Kincaid, Nicole Hrenchir, Jacob Kleespie
State Budget	Dylan Dear, Chardae Caine, Fiscal Staff
State Fire Code	Jordan Milholland, Kyle Anderson, Walt Nelson
Statewide Trade Licensing	Matthew Willis, Mike Ditch, Hannah Reidell
Select Government Oversight (House)	Edward Penner, Dylan Dear

Statutory Joint Committees	
Administrative Rules and Regulations	Jordan Milholland, Molly Pratt, Kate Smeltzer, Jill Shelley
Child Welfare System Oversight	Natalie Nelson, Amanda Prosser, Julia Kofoid
Fiduciary Financial Institutions Oversight	Mike Ditch, Arianna Waddell
Information Technology	James Fisher, Hannah Reidell, Matthew Willis
J. Russell (Russ) Jennings Corrections and Juvenile Justice Oversight	Jillian Kincaid, Nicole Hrenchir, Jordan Milholland
Kansas Security	Kate Smeltzer, Kyle Anderson, Jill Shelley, Emily Watkins
Legislative Budget	Dylan Dear, Chardae Caine, Fiscal Staff
Pensions, Investments and Benefits (Joint KPERS)	Chardae Caine, Mike Ditch
Robert G. (Bob) Bethell Home and Community Based Services & KanCare Oversight	Elizabeth Cohn, Julia Kofoid, Amanda Prosser, Other Health Staff
Special Claims Against the State	Nicole Hrenchir, Jacob Kleespie, Walt Nelson (support: Melissa Lowrey)
State Building Construction	Kyle Anderson, Luke Drury

Other Committees/Commissions/Councils/Task Forces	
Blue Ribbon Commission on Higher Education	Elaina Rudder, Nicole Bergman, Luke Drury
BUILD Kansas Advisory Committee	Walt Nelson, Chardae Caine, Molly Pratt
Business Enterprise Program Task Force	Amanda Prosser, Julia Kofoid, Leighann Thone
Capitol Preservation Committee	Mike Ditch, Shirley Morrow, Ethan Olsen
Confirmation Oversight Committee (Senate)	Natalie Nelson, James Fisher, Arianna Waddell
Education Funding Task Force	Jennifer Light, Nicole Bergman, Elaina Rudder, Emily Wakins, Matthew Willis
Health Care Stabilization Fund Oversight Committee	Leighann Thone, Ethan Olsen
Legislative Compensation Commission	Edward Penner, Dylan Dear, Shirley Morrow
Unemployment Compensation Modernization and Improvement Council	Edward Penner, Mike Ditch
Vehicle Services Modernization Task Force	Jill Shelley, Chardae Caine, Walt Nelson
Water Program Task Force and Water Planning Work Group	Heather O'Hara, Luke Drury, Conor Hughes, Walt Nelson, Elaina Rudder, Jill Shelley