

The Kansas Legislature consists of two chambers, the House of Representatives (125 members) and the Senate (40 members). Representatives and senators are elected from single-member districts prescribed by law. Representatives are elected for two-year terms, and senators are elected for four-year terms. These terms begin on the second Monday in January of the odd-numbered year following the election.

A majority of the elected and qualified members of each chamber is required for passage of any bill. For submission of a bill to the governor this requires 63 votes in the House and 21 votes in the Senate. Certain actions require a two-thirds majority, such as attempts to override a governor's veto or the passage of a Constitutional amendment.

Unlike many other states, Kansas has no procedure to allow voters to directly submit changes to the Constitution or statutes. The procedure to change the Kansas Constitution requires legislative initiative approved by two-thirds of the members followed by a majority vote of the electorate. Changes in statutes can only be initiated by the legislature.

The executive branch in Kansas comprises the following elected officials: the governor and lieutenant governor (elected as a team); the secretary of state; the state treasurer; the attorney general; and the commissioner of insurance. Although this toolkit focuses on the legislative process, the rules of conduct that apply to influencing various activities of the executive branch are much the same.