

## **Kansas approves amendment on poll tax**

This is a clipping from the Topeka Capitol. The article explains how Kansas became the twenty sixth state in the country in 1963 to approve an amendment to the United States Constitution to abolish poll taxing nationwide. Poll taxing had been used in several states since the end of the Civil War, particularly southern states, as a way to prevent African Americans from voting. The poll taxing amendment was signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson in 1964. The right to vote openly and freely was at the core of the Civil Rights Movement. The passage of the poll tax amendment secured every American citizen the right to vote without having to meet any financial qualifications in order to do so.

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## Kansas approves amendment on poll tax

Topeka Capital, March 29, 1963

### Kansas OKs Amendment On Poll Tax

Kansas Thursday became the 26th state in the union to ratify proposed amendment to the U.S. Constitution which would abolish the poll tax as a voter qualification.

The State Senate voted 24 to 8 to adopt a House concurrent resolution on the proposed

amendment. Notification that Kansas has ratified the amendment now goes to Congress.

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THE PROPOSED amendment was adopted in January 1962 by the 87th Congress and must be ratified by three-fourths of the states to become law.

Three House bills were passed Thursday by the Senate and sent to the governor. They would:

Transfer the State Medical Library from the fifth floor of the state house to Stormont-Vail Hospital.

Authorize cities to issue no-fund warrants up to one per cent of the city's total valuation for disaster relief.

Provide four free license plates to a drivers' school for disabled persons in Coffey County.

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### Panel Urges Communism Passage

A bill requiring 10 hours of instruction in communism versus Americanism in public high schools was recommended for passage Thursday by the House State Affairs Committee.

The bill, supported by the American Legion and the Daughters of the American Revolution, includes a study of communism "and other ideologies which threaten the American way of life."

The committee also recommended for passage measures which would:

Authorize use of prison grounds at Lansing for public parking.

Authorize an increase of Highway Patrol troopers from 175 to 200.

Put Highway Patrolmen under the public employees retirement system.

Put Kansas Bureau of Investigation agents under the public employees retirement system.

Authorize a Legislative Council investigation of elevator inspection practices in Kansas.

Authorize a Legislative Council study of the method of paying employees of the Highway Department.

Authorize a Legislative Council study of life insurance premium rating systems.