

SHANNON FRANCIS

Kansas House District 125



Visitors

It's always great when I get to visit with our recent graduates of Liberal High School and Southwestern Heights. This week Fort Hays State was represented at the Capitol by LHS graduate and former SCCC/ATS student Lizette Avalos. Lizette is majoring in Leadership and Communication Studies. She is also the Community Relations Director for the Student Government Association. Another Fort Hays Tiger MaKayla McPhail was also at the Capitol; she was representing Wichita State University where she is pursuing a Doctorate Degree in Physical Therapy. I hope she returns to Liberal after graduation to practice. We have a shortage of rural health practitioners in Southwest Kansas and it's great when our youth return home after college.



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Contact Shannon

At the Legislature:

State Capitol
Room 167A-W
Topeka, KS 66612
shannon.francis@house.ks.gov

At Home in Liberal:

1501 Tucker Court
Liberal, Kansas 67901
sfran83384@aol.com
620-624-9571



Shannon Francis with Lizette Avalos & MaKayla McPhail

I met Mirta Martin, the President of Fort Hays University, at the Capitol Wednesday. President Martin is a Cuban refugee and “uses her interpersonal and cultural expertise to work diligently to promote access to affordable educational opportunities.” President Martin and Lizette Avalos are impressive examples of the spirit and drive of Latinos in Kansas.

Legislative Thoughts

It has been pretty slow this week in Topeka. We were home Monday and Tuesday so staff could get bills transferred between the houses of origin. Wednesday and Thursday we started getting in the groove a little more working Senate Bills in the House.

I want to thank you for your wisdom and comments. At Sunday School Ted Metcalf reminded me “to think about the unintended consequences of legislation.” I recently was talking to some constituents that were concerned about specific cases of Medicaid Fraud. The Kansas Attorney General’s hotline number for

Medicaid Fraud is 1-866-551-6238.

Most of the bills proposed up here just need to be killed. Many of the bills that make headlines never get out of committee. But then there are those bills that get legs and you can't stop them. One bill I am concerned with is Senate Bill 58. It passed the Senate 39-1 and is on its way to the House. A local attorney is concerned that it will require hundreds of trips to Topeka by area residence because it would move the court of jurisdiction to Shawnee County for administrative appeals. I'm investigating this bill closely. Bills like this one don't get much attention until we are dealing with the "unintended consequences."

"If you have ten thousand regulations you destroy all respect for the law" Winston Churchill.

Weekly Coffee Meetings

My next coffee at Spencer Browne's Coffee House will be Saturday, March 14, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. It's great to visit with you and hear what is important to you.

Contact Info

Thank you for the opportunity to serve during these challenging times. Our rural communities are the backbone of a strong Kansas. During the session please contact me any time. My office is 167-W, my phone number is 785-296-7655 and my email is shannon.francis@house.ks.gov.

Shannon Francis

125th District Representative
Kansas House of Representatives



