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Area Legislator Addresses Missed Votes

(KAIR) -- The 2013 Kansas legislative session officially adjourned "Sine Die" last Thursday, meaning the final vote tally is now official.

According to Kansas Watchdog, the House cast 323 roll call votes.

Of those, seven members missed over 40 votes, including Cummings Democrat Jerry Henry, who missed 52 votes.

Henry says that was due to attending to a family medical situation, in which his son was hospitalized.

Travis Perry, reporter for Kansas Watchdog, say family or medical reasons were the reasons for four other legislators on the list.

Perry says the other reasons the vote count was so high was due to the legislators missing a period of the session called "Turn Around" day. (Play Audio)

Henry said he missed only a day and a half during that medical emergency, however, it was also during "Turn Around."

Leading the House in missed votes was Kansas City Democrat Mike Peterson with 212 votes, followed by Wichita Republican Leslie Osterman with 163.

Osterman suffered a heart attack during the session.

Kansas Watchdog was established in 2009 and monitors waste, fraud and abuse in Kansas Government, as well as the personal behavior of Legislators.

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