

March 17, 2016

Honorable Ralph Ostmeyer, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
136-E Capitol Building
Topeka, Kansas

Although the Kansas legislature is already open and accessible through the kslegislature.org website, where every bill can be found and every floor debate can be heard, I am writing in support of HB2573 because I think we can still improve on our level of transparency. I appreciate you taking the time to hear this important bill because it allows our constituents to listen to debates in committee hearings. The bill will help cut out the middle person who may have an agenda whether it's on Twitter, or in the newspapers. There needs to be supplementary opportunities for our constituents to listen in on current proceedings without having to read a biased twitter feed or news article. Our constituents will be able to listen to the whole debate and make their minds up based on the details from both sides.

The bill will also provide opportunities for government classes across Kansas to listen and learn from committee debates. Additionally, we as legislators can continue to work in our offices while listening to the debates of our colleagues. I do not see a down side to this legislation it will only benefit the people of Kansas. It will also hold the government more accountable to the voters.

Thank you for the opportunity to bring this legislation before you and testify in support.

Sincerely,

Representative Blake Carpenter 81st House District