

Approved 3-31-89 Ginger Barr, Chm.
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS

The meeting was called to order by Representative Ginger Barr at
Chairperson

1:36 ~~am~~/p.m. on March 20, 1989 in room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Mike Peterson

Committee staff present:

Mary Torrence, Revisor of Statutes Office
Mary Galligan, Kansas Department of Legislative Research
Juel Bennewitz, Secretary to the Committee

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Senator Ross Doyen
Representative Kent Campbell
David Retter, City Attorney, City of Concordia
Gene Miller, Economic Development Director, City of Concordia
Art Weiss, Deputy Attorney General, Consumer Protection Division
Tom Burgess, Association of Physical Fitness Clubs (APFC)
Rita Noll, Assistant Attorney General, Civil Division

SB 254

Senator Doyen explained Games West, Inc. is interested in establishing manufacturing in Kansas but is prohibited by the state law banning the manufacture of gambling devices. The gambling devices are but one product line of the company.

Representative Kent Campbell emphasized the gambling devices would be manufactured for export only. (The company has plans to expand to the manufacture of vending machines and hair dryers.) Citing the 20% population loss from 1979 - 1988 in Cloud County, he maintained this plant could contribute to stabilizing the economy, Attachment No. 1.

David Retter discussed the proposed changes in the law by SB 254, Attachment No. 2. He stated the reason for the urgency of SB 254 is that Concordia is in competition with South Dakota for the plant site.

Committee discussion established that:

1. There was concern on the committee that a business illegal in the state was recruited.
2. If the bill passes, Concordia intends to put through a real estate option.
3. The devices to be produced are coin operated and other gaming devices that are federally licensed and legal in Nevada will also be produced.
4. The bill was substantially amended by the Senate Judiciary Committee due to concern with language regarding "intent to sell out of state" (example: a person apprehended with parts). Mr. Retter contended as prosecutor could address the issue by requesting - 1. a federal license and 2. invoices. Additional language inserting the federal license requirement could make the language more binding.

Gene Miller explained Games West contacted the city through an advertisement placed in trade papers, Attachment No. 3. Contained in Mr. Miller's testimony are copies of a letter of intent from the president of the aforementioned company, a Dun and Bradstreet rating on that company and confirmation of the company's registration from the U.S. Department of Justice.

There were no opponents to the bill.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS

room 526-S, Statehouse, at 1:36 ~~am~~ p.m. on March 20, 1989

HB 2452

Art Weiss described some of the complaints received by his office concerning "high pressure sales pitches of discount buying clubs and health spas". This bill would provide an extension of the Consumer Protection Act's provision allowing a three day cancellation right, Attachment No. 4.

This bill is similar to one offered the previous legislative session except it does not include registration procedures contained in the previous bill or require the business to post a bond. The buying club or health spas would be required to include the three day cancellation notice in their contracts.

Citing health clubs/spas going out of business with no notice as an ongoing problem, one committee member suggested an interim study.

Tom Burgess opposed the bill stating there are no similarities between health spas and buying clubs and that it seemed health spas were "just added" to the bill, Attachment No. 5.

Elicited from committee discussion was:

1. Mr. Burgess' response to a committee member's question that this bill could hurt health spas by a. bold print of a cancellation provision could encourage a customer to cancel a contract and b. a spa offers a service - there is no way to reclaim services (such as a massage) rendered whereas a buying club can reclaim merchandise.
2. Another member suggested services need not be rendered during the cancellation period, rather it could be a time for the consumer to fully evaluate his decision.
3. At a recent meeting, the AFPC made an effort to address this issue. It does not have any individually sponsored legislation in any other committee.
4. Mr. Burgess would consult the AFPC regarding its support of language amending the bill to state "anyone availing himself of (the health club/spa) services during the three day cancellation period, and then cancelling, would be subject to a flat fee.
5. Mr. Burgess stated saturation of the health spa market seems to have remedied the problem of large advance fees being paid to a club and then the club bankrupting.

HB 2376

Attachment No. 6 is Davis Merritt's written testimony in support of the bill.

Rita Noll appeared as a proponent of the bill explaining, unlike the Kansas Open Meetings Act, the Attorney General, county or district attorneys do not have the authority to enforce the Kansas Open Records Act (KORA), Attachment No. 7.

Ms. Noll did not present actual statistics but stated records requests to the attorney general's office seemed to be reasonable requests; there have been enough contacts to the attorney general's office to indicate a problem in this regard and; though there are some records which could be expensive to provide, KORA requires that a public agency can charge a reasonable amount for copying and staff time.

There were no opponents to the bill.

The meeting adjourned at 2:18 p.m. The next meeting of the committee will be March 21, 1989, at 1:30 p.m. in Room 526-S.

Testimony before Federal & State Affairs Committee

Monday, March 20, 1989

Rep. Kent Campbell

SB 254 proposes a minor change to KSA 21-4306 & 4307 which would permit the manufacturing of gambling devices in Kansas for export purposes only.

Games West, Inc. of Tucson, Arizona would like to establish a facility in Concordia which would employ 50 people initially and grow to approximately 200 in two years as they intend to eventually produce soft drink vending machines and hair dryers at the facility.

It seems that time is of the essence on this bill in order to send a signal to the manufacturer that Kansas welcomes new business and new jobs.

You may not be aware that Cloud County experienced a 20% loss of population between the 1979 and 1988 census. In addition to the downturn in the agricultural economy, part of the loss of population can probably be explained by the lack of jobs to keep people in the area. Location of this facility would then seem to be an opportunity to help stabilize the local economy and prevent further population loss.

I'd like to introduce Dave Retter, City Attorney at this time and he will be followed by Gene Miller, Economic Development Director for Concordia. They can answer detailed questions about the proposal as well as tell you why the need for quick action on the bill.

Thank you for the expedited action on this hearing and I'll attempt to answer questions at this time.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Federal and State Affairs Committee, Kansas House of Representatives
FROM: David E. Retter, City Attorney, City of Concordia, Kansas
RE: SB 254 (as amended by Senate Judiciary Committee)
DATE: March 20, 1989

BACKGROUND: The City of Concordia, Kansas is recruiting an economic development prospect, Games West, Inc., to establish a manufacturing facility in Concordia. Games West, Inc. proposes to manufacture video games, and other electronic devices, including gambling devices. Gambling devices would be manufactured for export only. Games West, Inc. is currently federally licensed for manufacture of gambling devices. The company would initially employ 50 people, with proposed expansion to 200 employees in 2 years. Games West, Inc., has requested no additional subsidies or inducements from the City of Concordia other than the city's aid in changing existing law to allow manufacture of gambling devices in the state, solely for export.

EXISTING LAW: Under existing law, manufacture of gambling devices would be prohibited under two statutes, K.S.A. 21-4306 and K.S.A. 21-4307. K.S.A. 21-4306 makes it a class E felony to deal in gambling devices. Under the statute, "dealing" means manufacturing, transferring, or possessing with intent to transfer any gambling device or sub-assembly or essential part thereof.

K.S.A. 21-4307 makes it a class B misdemeanor to possess a gambling device.

CHANGES PROPOSED: SB 254, as amended by the Senate Judiciary Committee adds language to both K.S.A. 21-4306 and K.S.A. 21-4307.

Under the bill, manufacturers or transporters under contract with a manufacturer could legally "deal with" gambling devices, if **intended for export**.

Similarly, manufacturers or a transporter under contract with a manufacturer could legally possess a gambling device, if **intended for export**.

Respectfully submitted,



David E. Retter, City Attorney
City of Concordia, Kansas

TESTIMONY

KANSAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SENATE BILL 254

MARCH 20, 1989

HOUSE FEDERAL & STATE AFFAIRS
Attachment No. 3
3/20/89

Senate Bill 254

Testimony by Gene Miller, Director of Economic Development, City Hall, Concordia, Kansas.

Games West, Inc. of Tucson, Arizona would like to establish a manufacturing facility in Concordia. Operations will commence with the production of gambling devices and expand to soft drink machines and hot air hand dryers. Beginning employment in the electronic assembly will be 50 and will expand to approximately 200 in two years when the soft drink machines and the hand dryers will be in full production. Production will begin in an existing 6000 sq. ft. facility. A new facility will be constructed in the Concordia Industrial Park in the near future.

The project is contingent on the State of Kansas providing the legal means to manufacture gambling devices in the State for export. The production will take place elsewhere if we can not accommodate the company by amending Section 1. K.S.A. 21-4306 and Section 2. K.S.A. 21-4307 and repealing the existing sections as set forth in Senate Bill 254.

Enclosed you will find:

A letter from Carlton Van Gorder, President, Games West, Inc.

A Dunn & Bradstreet report on Games West

U.S. Department of Justice Registration

GAMES WEST, INC.

2002 NORTH FORBES BLVD. #100
TUCSON, ARIZONA 85745
(602) 882-0883

TELEX RCA 284 250
ANSWER BACK: ANCHOR
DDD 622 7114

2/22/89

Mr. Gene R. Miller
Director
Economic Development
City Hall
Concordia, Kansas 66901

Dear Gene,

I wish to thank you for the courtesies you extended to me while I was in Concordia.

This letter will confirm Games West's intention to open a manufacturing plant in Concordia Kansas if the existing laws are changed so that Games West may legally manufacture coin operated gambling equipment in the State of Kansas.

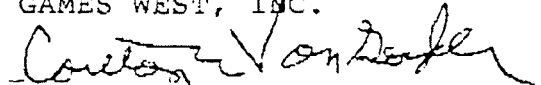
Immediately after the laws are changed, so that we may legally manufacture in Kansas, Games West intends to lease or purchase a temporary facility until such time as they can build a facility with needed space.

Games West intends to immediately hire approximately 50 people, 50% men 50% women and within 2 years will employ around 200 people.

I hope that you are able to get the proper legislation through in Kansas, so that our plans to build a facility in Concordia can become a reality.

Very truly yours

GAMES WEST, INC.


Carlton Van Gorder
President

COPYRIGHT 1988 D&B INC. - PROVIDED UNDER CONTRACT
FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF SUBSCRIBER

ATTN: KJ

IN DATE

Statement Date: MAR 31 1987

DUNS: 15-366-4479
GAMES WEST, INC
POLAR BEAR CAN VENDERS &
BEAR INDUSTRIES

DATE PRINTED
MAR 24 1988
MFG COIN OPERATED
GAMBLING MACHINES
& COIN OPERATED
SCALES
SID NO.
39 99

SUMMARY
RATING --
STARTED 1986
PAYMENTS SEE BELOW
WORTH F \$3,608,324
EMPLOYS 90(17 HERE)
HISTORY INCOMPLETE
FINANCING SECURED
CONDITION FAIR

2002 N FORBES STE 100
AND BRANCH(ES) OR DIVISION(S)
(FORMERLY: 2102 N FORBES BLVD
STE 102)
TUCSON AZ 85745
TEL: 602 623-2869

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: CARLTON VAN BORDER, PRES

SPECIAL
EVENTS

12/18/87 Business relocated to above location Dec 1987 due to expansion.
Cost of move estimated at \$150,000 financed 100% internally.

PAYMENTS (Amounts may be rounded to nearest figure in prescribed ranges)

REPORTED	PAYING RECORD	HIGH CREDIT	NOW OWES	PAST DUE	SELLING TERMS	LAST SALE WITHIN
02/88	Disc	1000	1000	-0-	2 10 NSO	1 Mo
01/88	Ppt	25000	10000		NSO	
	Ppt	500	500	-0-	1 15 NSO	1 Mo
	Slow 30	50	-0-	-0-	NSO	6-12 Mos
	(005)	500	-0-	-0-		2-3 Mos
07/87	Ppt	50	-0-	-0-	N7	2-3 Mos

* Payment experiences reflect how bills are met in relation to the terms granted. In some instances payment beyond terms can be the result of disputes over merchandise, skipped invoices etc.

* Each experience shown represents a separate account reported by a supplier. Updated trade experiences replace those previously reported.

FINANCE

* A FINANCIAL SPREAD SHEET OF COMPARATIVES, RATIOS, AND INDUSTRY AVERAGES
* MAY BE AVAILABLE. ORDER A DUNS FINANCIAL PROFILE VIA YOUR DUNSPRINT
* TERMINAL OR BY CALLING DUNS DIAL AT 1-800-DNS-DIAL.

12/18/87 Interim statement dated MAR 31 1987:

Cash	\$	107,000	Accts Pay	\$	13,382
Accts Rec		241,000	Parts Ordered		21,354
Notes Rec		161,000			

Curr Assets	509,000	Curr Liabs	34,736
Fixed Assets	1,247,300		
Inventory	1,886,760	EQUITY	3,608,324
	-----		-----
Total Assets	3,643,060	Total	3,643,060

Statement received by mail JUL 27 1987. Extent of audit, if any, not indicated.

--C--

On DEC 02 1987 Carlton Van Gorder, president, declined all information.

PUBLIC FILINGS

UCC FILINGS

12/18/87 Financing Statement #501272 filed 09-21-87 with Secretary, State of AZ. Debtor: Games West, Inc, Tucson, AZ. Secured Party: Coin Machine Accept Corp, Tucson, AZ. Collateral: specified equipment.

12/18/87 Financing Statement #478789 filed 03-24-87 with Secretary, State of AZ. Debtor: Games West, Inc, Tucson, AZ. Secured Party: Coin Machine Acceptance Corp, Tucson, AZ. Collateral: specified inventory.

12/18/87 Financing Statement #472424 filed 02-10-87 with Secretary, State of AZ. Debtor: Games West, Inc, Tucson, AZ. Secured Party: Coin Machine Accp Corp, Tucson, AZ. Collateral: specified inventory.

12/18/87 Financing Statement #472483 filed 02-10-87 with Secretary, State of AZ. Debtor: Games West, Inc, Tucson, AZ. Secured Party: Coin Machines Accp Corp, Tucson, AZ. Collateral: specified inventory.

The public record items reported above under "PUBLIC FILINGS" and "UCC FILINGS" may have been paid, terminated, vacated or released prior to the date this report was printed.

HISTORY

12/18/87

CARLTON VAN GORDER, PRES

DIRECTOR(S): THE OFFICER(S)

Incorporated Arizona Oct 22 1986. Authorized capital consists of 2,500,000 shares common stock, \$.01 par value.

Business started 1986 by Carlton Van Gorder. 100% of capital stock is owned by Carlton Van Gorder.

CARLTON VAN GORDER. 1986-present active here.

OPERATION

12/18/87

Manufactures coin operated slot machines (50%) and coin operated scales (50%).

Terms are net 30 days. Sells to casinos and other commercial concerns. Territory :Worldwide.

Nonseasonal.

EMPLOYEES: 90 including officers. 17 employed here.

FACILITIES: Leases 6,000 sq. ft. in one story concrete block building.

LOCATION: Suburban business section on well traveled street.

BRANCHES: Branch is located in Yuma, AZ.

03-24(154 /11)

00000

028

H

FULL DISPLAY COMPLETE

A=CREDIT ADVISORY SYSTEM
MS=MONITORING SERVICES

P=PAYMENT ANALYSIS RPT
D=FINANCIAL PRODUCTS
C=CREDIT GUIDE
T=FAMILY TREE
G=GOVT ACTIVITY REPORT

I=BUSINESS INVESTIGATION
M=MAIL
CAN=MOVE TO NEXT INQUIRY

ENTER SELECTION:

Att: Mr. Gene Miller

U.S. Department of Justice



WFW:FDH:GMcN:GTW:gtw
159-12-109

Washington, D.C. 20530

Games West, Incorporated
2002 N. Forbes Boulevard, #100
Tucson, AZ 85745

Attention: Mr. Luis A. Ochoa

Dear Sir:

This is to confirm your registration for the
Calendar Year 1989 under the Gambling Devices Act of 1962
(15 U.S.C. 1171, et seq.).

As you may know, this registration must be renewed
by resupplying us with all of the information required by the
Act in each Calendar Year.

Since registration is effective on the date the full
and correct information is received by the Department we suggest
that your letter be sent registered or certified mail to provide
you with proof of the date the letter was received.

Sincerely,

Edward S.G. Dennis, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division

BY:

Frederick D. Hess
Frederick D. Hess, Director
Office of Enforcement Operations

DECONCINI McDONALD BRAMMER YETWIN & LACY

A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

EVO DECONCINI (1901-1986)

JOHN R. McDONALD	J. WM. BRAMMER, JR.
RICHARD M. YETWIN	JOHN C. LACY
DINO DECONCINI	ROBERT M. STRUSE
WILLIAM B. HANSON	JOHN C. RICHARDSON
DAVID C. ANSON	JAMES A. JUTRY
SPENCER A. SMITH	MICHAEL R. URMAN
DENISE M. SAINTON	KAREN J. NYGAARD
LUIS A. OCHOA	SUSAN E. MILLER
GARY F. URMAN	

240 NORTH STONE AVENUE
TUCSON, ARIZONA 85701-1295
(602) 623-3411
FAX: (602) 624-0972

July 14, 1988

3030 NORTH THIRD ST., SUITE 200
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85012-3002
(602) 241-0100
FAX: (602) 241-8533

PLEASE REPLY TO TUCSON

REGISTERED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Frederick D. Hess
Director, Office of Enforcement Operations
U. S. Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20530

Re: Games West, Inc.

RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION
LETTER-REQUIRED UNDER THE
GAMBLING ACT OF 1962
(15 U.S.C. 1171, et. seq.)

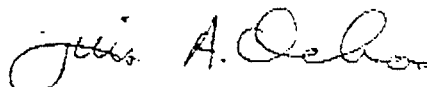
Dear Mr. Hess:

On behalf of Games West, Inc., this is a renewal of the registration letter filed with your office on July 2, 1986, by Carlton E. Van Gorder, President of Games West, Inc., as required by the Gambling Act of 1962 (15 U.S.C. 1171, et. seq.) This corporation is engaged in the business of manufacturing and distributing of gaming devices. It also will ship games across state lines to Nevada and other states where such shipments are legal and to foreign countries. The games that will be shipped have been ruled in some areas as coin-operated gambling devices.

The corporation's manufacturing plant is located at 2002 North Forbes Boulevard, No. 100, Tucson, Arizona 85745, the phone number is (602) 882-0883. All records on interstate shipments have been kept and will continue to be kept at the corporation's manufacturing plant in Tucson.

These devices will be shipped under the Gambling Device Act of 1962 (15 U.S.C. 1171, et. seq.) If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,



Luis A. Ochoa

c: Carlton Van Gorder, President,
Games West, Inc.
0713880345.laol.880205



STATE OF KANSAS

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

2ND FLOOR, KANSAS JUDICIAL CENTER, TOPEKA 66612-1597

ROBERT T. STEPHAN
ATTORNEY GENERAL

TESTIMONY OF ARTHUR R. WEISS

MAIN PHONE: (913) 296-2215
CONSUMER PROTECTION: 296-3751
TELECOPIER: 296-6296

DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL
CONSUMER PROTECTION DIVISION

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL & STATE AFFAIRS

HEARING ON HOUSE BILL 2452

MARCH 20, 1989

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Attorney General Stephan requested the introduction of this bill to help Kansas consumers who fall victim to high pressure sales pitches at health and discount buying clubs. The Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division receives dozens of complaints each year from Kansas consumers who were lured into sales presentations at either health or discount buying clubs by promises of enormous discounts, limited time only offers, fake contests, or other exaggerated incentives only to find that they are subjected to long high pressure sales pitches.

Consumers often times feel that they have no choice but to sign an agreement to get out of what is deliberately made an uncomfortable situation for them. By the time the consumer

HOUSE FEDERAL & STATE AFFAIRS
Attachment No. 4
3/20/89

gets home, many times within minutes of leaving the location, they are able to calmly and coolly reach the decision that they offer to which they just committed their financial resources is not for them.

What we request is an extension of the Consumer Protection Act's provision allowing a three day cancellation right on door-to-door sales to cover health spas and discount buying clubs. In some ways, these situations are even more difficult for consumers to turn down than a door-to-door salesman. In health and buying clubs, consumers feel trapped at the business while they are being bombarded with high pressure sales tactics.

A legitimate business offer can certainly withstand a three day cooling off period. It is only reasonable that Kansas consumers be provided the opportunity to make rational, intelligent decisions outside the constraints of a domineering sales person.

We respectfully request favorable recommendation on this bill. Thank you.

BEFORE THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The Honorable Ginger Barr, Chairperson

Monday, March 20, 1989

Tom Burgess
Association of Physical Fitness Centers

Testimony

Madam Chairman

Members of the Committee

I am Tom Burgess representing Association of Physical Fitness Centers.

I am here to testify against HB 2452 in its present form. This bill seems to be written for Buying Clubs, and Health Spa's were just added to it.

There are no similarities between Health Spas and Buying Clubs. I would suggest an amendment that would take Health Spa's out of this bill. With the Health Spa's out, we would not oppose the bill.

Pep. Ginger Barr
House Federal & State Affairs Committee
Topeka

Dear Rep. Barr and members of the committee:

HB 2376 would mark an important advance in citizen access to government and I urge its favorable consideration.

As you know, the Attorney General has for years possessed authority to enforce the Kansas Open Meetings Act, and that office has been vigorous in representing the people of Kansas in matters of access to the deliberations of their governing bodies. Such is not the case with the Kansas Open Records Act, and HB 2376 would rectify that omission.

The need for the change is clear. The bureaucratic imperative is toward secrecy, toward automatically denying citizen access to records simply because it is too much trouble, or because of confusion over what is public and what is not. Often, the bureaucracy moves more slowly than is warranted in providing information. Empowering the Attorney General to directly enforce the law would, if nothing else, heighten awareness on the part of custodians that what they oversee is in fact the public's business and that the Legislature intends for that to be understood.

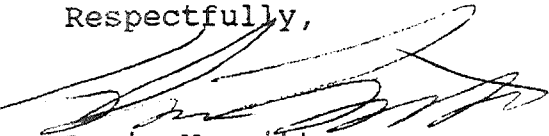
The KORA contains many -- far too many -- exceptions, making it difficult for even experienced custodians to always know what is covered and what is not. How much more difficult that becomes for the average citizen when faced with the need for information and an initial refusal by a custodian. Having the Attorney General's office as an active supporter in such situations would provide some balance to what is now a one-sided situation.

As reporters, we often are confronted with recalcitrance on the part of records keepers. Increasingly in recent years, the response has been "If you don't like my decision, sue us." Even large newspapers, let alone small ones or private citizens, are reluctant to incur substantial legal costs and the time delays implicit in lawsuits. KORA does provide for recovery of costs if access to a public record is denied for improper reasons, but those restrictions are severe and are rarely implemented, so a person or organization can be forced to spend thousands of dollars to obtain what is clearly a public record.

The present situation also frustrates the Attorney General's office. It often issues opinions in open records cases only to hear the same response, "So sue us." HB 2376 would allow the Attorney General to act quickly and vigorously to back up its legal opinions.

I urge your favorable consideration.

Respectfully,


Davis Merritt
Executive Editor - Wichita Eagle-Beacon
dm/sq



STATE OF KANSAS

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

2ND FLOOR, KANSAS JUDICIAL CENTER, TOPEKA 66612-1597

ROBERT T. STEPHAN
ATTORNEY GENERAL

MAIN PHONE: (913) 296-2215
CONSUMER PROTECTION: 296-3751
TELECOPIER: 296-6296

House Committee on Federal and State Affairs
House Bill No. 2376

Testimony Presented by
Rita L. Noll
Assistant Attorney General
March 20, 1989

Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of Attorney General Stephan, I am here today to testify in favor of House Bill No. 2376.

HB #2376 amends the Kansas Open Records Act to give the Attorney General and county or district attorney authority to enforce the provisions of the Kansas Open Records Act (KORA). In general, the KORA gives individuals the right of access to public records.

If a person has been denied access to a record which is required to be open, the KORA provides that the person may make application with the district court to enforce the law. Unlike the Kansas Open Meetings Act, the Attorney General and county or district attorney do not have authority to bring an action to enforce the open records law.

The law as it presently stands presents difficulties for the ordinary citizen who is generally without resources to file suit against a governmental body in order to obtain access to a public record. Our office receives many complaints from individuals who have been unlawfully denied access to, or copies of public records. The complaints range from minutes of school board meetings to budgets of county commissions, and not infrequently involve state agencies.

Often a phone call or letter from our office to the public agency will settle the situation. However, we believe that giving the Attorney General and county or district attorney power to prosecute will act as a deterrent against KORA violations. Public agencies will more likely cooperate and enter into agreements if they know we have authority to enforce the law.

The Attorney General is of the opinion that the bill will not have a fiscal impact on our office. We do not intend to become the central clearinghouse for all records requests made to public agencies. Rather, we support the bill as we believe the option to bring suit by the Attorney General, which we will exercise should the situation warrant, will prevent violations of the law from occurring.