



March 16, 2016

Testimony in Support of HB 2573

Chairman Ostmeyer and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit written testimony in support of HB 2573.

Of all the functions of government, ensuring citizens have access to government is one of the most critical. In a state as large as Kansas, attending committee hearings in Topeka is simply not possible for the vast majority of Kansans. HB 2573 will take a small step to meet Kansans where *they* are.

As members of this committee are well aware, the legislative process in the committee room is just as critical as what happens on the House and Senate floor. This bill will allow Kansas citizens to hear the testimony and discussion on bills in committee, and to fully track bills from introduction to Final Action.

The fiscal note indicates an initial cost of less than \$117,000 and annual expenditures of \$40,390 thereafter. While not an insignificant amount, providing a venue for citizens to observe their government at work is a core function of any democratic system of government.

On behalf of thousands of Americans for Prosperity activists in all parts of Kansas, I urge you to support HB 2573.

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