



Kansas Press Association, Inc.

Dedicated to serving and advancing the interests of Kansas newspapers

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March 12, 2018

To: Sen. Rick Wilborn, chairman, and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee

From: Doug Anstaett, executive director, Kansas Press Association

Re: Testimony in support of HB 2571

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee:

I am Doug Anstaett, executive director of the Kansas Press Association.

I write today in support of the language in House Bill 2571 as amended by the House Judiciary Committee. This bill now represents agreed-to language by most of the parties that have shown interest in this legislation.

This amended bill allows for up to a 20-day period for disclosure of police body cam video footage to the families of victims and redefines heir at law language for those whose loved one has been injured or killed in an incident involving law enforcement officers.

We believe most of the time access to these videos will clear up any disagreements between officers and those whom they have encountered and ensure to the public that appropriate action was taken. In addition, it can also provide answers and possibly have a calming effect on communities that are seeking information on law enforcement-involved shootings.

While the legislation as amended does not go far enough in our view, the Kansas Press Association and its 200 member newspapers support moving forward and we ask that you support its passage.

It is also our hope that the issue of body and vehicle cam video footage can be investigated in more detail by the Kansas Judicial Council in the coming months.

Thank you.