



**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 2067
House Federal and State Affairs Committee**

Good Morning Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee. I'm Kent Cornish, President of the Kansas Association of Broadcasters, a trade association representing the nearly 275 radio and television stations in Kansas.

This is a citizenry bill – not specifically for broadcasters. But as the conduit to every community across Kansas, it's our job to provide to our listeners and viewers as much important information as we can. Some of you may be regularly featured on our stations through interviews or legislative programs. So, you know the importance of communicating to constituents.

Given the impact that decisions in the Statehouse have on every Kansan, they deserve to hear and see more about the process and information used to make the laws they obey. As you well know most of the work is done in committee and over time your constituents will find streaming coverage of all committees helpful in their understanding of issues affecting them. The technology is there and gets easier to use all the time. So why not have a better-informed citizenry? Without that, democracy doesn't work.

This bill would also help the media cover more legislative news, and get the facts and full scope of the committee's discussion. But beyond the media, the voters who elected you have a better opportunity to listen to the information first hand.

You have a wonderful opportunity to keep the legislature open and transparent with passage of HB 2067.

Thank you for your time and I'd be pleased to answer questions at the appropriate time.

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