



**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 2219
House Judiciary Committee
Written Only**

Good Afternoon 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.

Transparency in government can't be a part time thing. You either support it and some of the inconveniences that come with it – or you don't.

The purpose of open meetings is for the public to attend and oversee what their elected or appointed officials are doing. However, not everyone can be at the meeting of their interest and it should be the policy to make every effort to assist the citizenry in hearing or seeing what happened at a meeting.

Technology today has made the audio recording of a meeting quite affordable and quite easy. Smaller agencies or bodies most likely meet in a room where audio can be picked up with a single digital recorder. In many meeting rooms, a public address system is used which also enhances the audio pick up by the small digital recorder. These recordings can then be uploaded directly to the computer for the recording to be placed on a website or emailed.

In our opinion, democracy should not be about money or convenience. In this case, look at what technologies today can do to better serve Kansans. We support HB 2219.

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

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