

Date: February 15, 2019
To: Chairman Finch and the House Judiciary Committee
From: Eudora Township
Re: Testimony in Opposition to HB 2219

Dear Chairman Finch and the House Judiciary Committee:

HB 2219, if passed, would result in a significant financial burden on the Eudora Township and would create little to no benefit for the public good. As such, the City of Eudora Township Board strongly opposes HB 2219 and asks that you vote no on the bill.

Our board has no staff support and limited resources to comply with the proposed mandate that we make audio or video recordings of our meetings and then make them accessible to the public within 24 hours after such meetings. We have no website or other means of complying with this additional, unnecessary measure to provide these files to the public. The requirement provide no value to our residents and would just create a large burden on our budget. Additionally, we have difficulty as it is to attract good residents to serve on the township board; imposing requirements like this on people who are not comfortable nor trusting of audio/video recording on publishing will have a negative impact on our ability to fill our board seats with quality, knowledgeable elected officials.

Thank you for considering the position of the Eudora Township and for your thoughtful review of HB 2219 concerning the Kansas Open Meetings Act and the probably unintended and detrimental impacts that its passage would have on small, rural townships like ours. We urge you to vote no on HB 2219.

Kind regards,

Branden Boyd
Eudora Township Treasurer