

Mr. Chairman and Committee:

Today I stand in support of HB 2219.

Transparency in government is a key feature of every free society. US law encourages agencies to make information in records available to the public whenever possible. This bill is possible.

If a meeting is supported in whole or in part by public funds it shall be open to the public.

This bill will move Kansas another step forward to an all-in transparency State.

It is vitally important that people who cannot attend public meetings for reasons of disability, work hours, single parents with small children or for any number of other reasons, have access to those meetings through recorded audio or video.

I will end with this quote:

“Transparency is for those who carry out public duties and exercise public power. Privacy is for everyone else.”

Thank you.

John Alcala
Kansas House of Representatives
57th District