AN ACT concerning places of public accommodation; relating to public areas thereof; requiring that closed captioning be enabled on certain televisions and television receivers therein.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. (a) (1) Places of public accommodation with televisions and television receivers located in public areas shall have closed captioning enabled as the default option while such place of public accommodation is open and accessible to the public.

(2) The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to televisions that were manufactured prior to 1993.

(b) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require that all programming content be closed captioned.

(c) The Kansas commission for the deaf and hard of hearing shall:

(1) Adopt policies providing guidance on compliance with this section to be followed by any place of public accommodation. Such policies shall be made available on the commission's website and include guidance related to:

(A) A public area of a place of public accommodation that has multiple televisions or television receivers;

(B) placement of televisions to ensure patrons are within reasonable eyesight of a television with closed captioning enabled; and

(C) accommodating requests to turn closed captioning on or off; and

(2) assist local governmental entities with technical consultation and support in the development of policies and procedures when requested by such local governmental entity.

(d) For purposes of this section:

(1) "Closed captioning" means the text display on the television screen of the audio portion of a television program.

(2) "Television" or "television receiver" means equipment that is able to display closed captioning, including, but not limited to, a television, digital set-top-box or other technology that is capable of displaying closed captioning for television programming.

(3) "Public accommodation" means the same as defined in 42 U.S.C. § 12181, as in effect on July 1, 2023.

(4) "Public area" means any part of a place of public accommodation
that is open to the general public.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.