

STATE OF KANSAS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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KEITH ESAU
14TH DISTRICT

Chairman Sloan and members of the House Government Technology and Security Committee,

I come before you in support of HB 2700 — requiring redaction of social security numbers in documents available for public inspection and copying.

After the recent news reports of the disclosure of the last 4 digits of some state employees and elected officials on the Statement of Substantial interest forms by the Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission through the Secretary of State's website, I became concerned that there might be other areas like this where the laws in Kansas require certain disclosures, but do not make exceptions for certain private information on those forms.

Rather than find all the possible places that this might happen, I asked the revisors for a simpler solution. HB 2700 is the result. While certain documents require a social security number for identification purposes internally and for purposes of searching for a document, there is no reason for the public to have access to that information without knowing the number first. This bill simply requires any public display of any document to have any portion of the social security number redacted.

I am happy for stand for any questions at the appropriate time.

Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Keith Esau".

Keith Esau
State Representative, District 14