



KANSAS
ASSOCIATION OF
COUNTIES

300 SW 8th Avenue, Suite 300 • Topeka, KS 66603
785-272-2585 • Fax 785-272-3585 • www.kansascounties.org

House Judiciary Committee
January 21, 2021
House Bill 2049

Kansas Association of Counties
Neutral Testimony – Written Only

Chairman Patton and members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing the Kansas Association of Counties to offer neutral testimony on this bill concerning open records. The Association and its member counties stand for open government and transparency.

KAC understands the desire to make the post audit process as open and as cost effective as possible. For many records requests, the nominal amount of providing copies of a few documents has no tangible effect on the county or county department providing that information. In some cases, however, requests for numerous copies can become burdensome.

KAC does believe there is a reasonable way to avoid overly burdensome costs.

(g) No public agency shall charge a fee for access to records maintained electronically, **or for on site physical inspection of records** if the request for such records is made by the post auditor or an employee of the legislative division of post audit for the purpose of conducting an audit pursuant to the legislative post audit act, K.S.A. 46-1101 et. seq., and amendments thereto, or any other law.

By allowing for on-site inspection of non-electronic records, this avoids the cost associated with copying, thereby avoiding an overly costly process for both the auditor and the public agency.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this information to the committee. Please let me know if we can provide further assistance on this topic.

Jay Hall
Legislative Policy Director and General Counsel
Kansas Association of Counties
hall@kansascounties.org
(785)272-2585, Ext. 307