

House Local Government Committee February 16, 2022 HB 2619

Kansas Association of Counties Neutral Testimony

Chairman Thompson and members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing the Kansas Association of Counties to offer opponent testimony on HB 2619, which would require counties and cities to post compensation information for elected officials on the respective city or county's website.

KAC is a proponent of transparency. The information that is required to be posted is already available via an open records request. Requiring that it be on the website does not really increase transparency – it just adds an additional file to the website storage.

Additionally, for many counties, the county website is not the primary source of interaction. Many counties have social media pages that receive far more engagement than the official county website.

Ultimately, while KAC is not opposed to this bill, we do not believe that it enhances transparency because the information that would be on the website is already available through an open records request. If any resident wants that information, they can simply contact their county and request it.

KAC would urge the committee to consider this carefully before making a recommendation on this bill. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Thank you.

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