

To: Senate Judiciary Committee

From: John Goodyear, General Counsel

Date: March 9, 2022

RE: Testimony in Support of SB 507 – Written Only

I want to thank Chairwoman Warren and the members of the Committee for affording the League of Kansas Municipalities the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 507.

This bill is the required review and renewal of various exceptions to the Open Records Act. While the general rule under the Act is that records of public agencies are open to the public, the legislature has made exceptions when the disclosure of certain records would threaten the privacy of individuals or create a risk to security.

The League supports this legislation, specifically for the continuation of the exception found in K.S.A. 22-4620 for recordings of statements made during custodial interrogation.

SB 507 continues necessary exemptions to the Open Records Act. We respectfully ask the Committee to recommend the bill favorably to the full Senate.