

SENATE BILL No. 86

By Committee on Federal and State Affairs

1-27

1 AN ACT creating the Kansas transparency act; concerning legislative
2 meetings; providing for live audio broadcasts.

3
4 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

5 Section 1. (a) Beginning January 1, 2016, audio broadcasts shall be
6 made of all legislative committee meetings that convene in the committee
7 rooms designated pursuant to this act and that are required to be open to
8 the public pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4317 et seq., and amendments thereto,
9 and made available in real time for public access on the internet. The
10 legislative chief information technology officer shall, in consultation with
11 the legislative coordinating council, designate four committee rooms in the
12 capitol to be equipped with audio broadcasting equipment sufficient to
13 effectuate the provisions of this act. The legislative chief information
14 technology officer shall provide for the operation and maintenance of all
15 such broadcasting devices in a manner sufficient to provide the public with
16 access to all committee meetings held in a designated committee room.
17 Each committee may suspend this broadcasting requirement by an
18 affirmative vote of ^{2/3} of the committee's voting members when there is an
19 equipment failure and the purpose is not to avoid the requirements of this
20 act. All broadcasts of the legislative proceedings described in this act shall
21 be made available in real time to the public and be accessible, along with
22 archives of all such broadcasts, on the internet.

23 (b) Following the 2017 legislative session, the legislative chief
24 information technology officer shall report to the legislative coordinating
25 council and the joint committee on information technology on the
26 implementation of the broadcasts of such legislative committee meetings
27 pursuant to this act. In order to prepare such report, the legislative chief
28 information technology officer shall consult with the director of legislative
29 research and the revisor of statutes to prepare information about the: (1)
30 Expenses incurred in order to provide the audio broadcasts of committee
31 meetings;

32 (2) number of visitors listening to the broadcasts;
33 (3) feasibility and projected costs of expanding the number of rooms
34 equipped with audio broadcast equipment and the associated costs; and

35 (4) any possible changes to the broadcasting of legislative meetings.

36 (c) After review by the joint committee on information technology of

1 the report provided pursuant to this act, and upon the recommendation and
2 approval of the legislative coordinating council, the legislative chief
3 information technology officer shall designate four additional committee
4 rooms in the capitol to be equipped with audio broadcasting equipment for
5 the 2018 legislative session and to equip all remaining committee rooms in
6 the capitol with audio broadcasting equipment for the 2019 legislative
7 session.

8 (d) For the purposes of this section: (1) "Committee" means any
9 standing committee, subcommittee, conference committee, interim
10 committee or any committee that is established by law or by either
11 presiding officer; and

12 (2) "committee room" means any room in the state capitol designated
13 by the legislative chief information technology officer in which a meeting
14 is held that is required to be open to the public pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4317
15 et seq., and amendments thereto.

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