



KANSAS
ASSOCIATION OF
COUNTIES

715 SW 10th Avenue • Topeka, KS 66612
785-272-2585 • www.kansascounties.org

Senate Utilities Committee
January 29, 2026
SB 379

Kansas Association of Counties
Proponent Testimony (written only)

Chairman Fagg and members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing the Kansas Association of Counties to provide proponent testimony on SB 379, which would establish a statewide emergency medical dispatch and CPR program, provide for quality assurance and limit civil liability for emergency medical dispatchers.

KAC supports the creation of protocols for statewide emergency medical dispatch and telecommunicator cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) programs. These programs give dispatchers the tools to provide potentially lifesaving instructions in a timely manner.

Additionally, the bill centralizes the medical direction and quality assurance, which benefits everyone, but particularly rural public safety answering points (PSAPs). The civil immunity protections provided in the bill also are important for all dispatchers to know that the information they provide will not expose them to civil liability.

KAC would encourage the committee to ensure that the funding for these programs does not shift or sunset, as this would create an unfunded mandate. The bill provides for continued funding and KAC supports maintaining this funding at the state level to avoid burdening local taxpayers with more costs.

There is also a need to potentially phase in the adoption timelines to allow all PSAPs, but particularly smaller PSAPs to stay in compliance. Rural PSAPs should have explicit opt-in protections.

Finally, the quality assurance and training workload should be arranged to avoid becoming burdensome for local staff. These should remain funded as a state function through this bill and continue funding in out years.

KAC supports SB 379 and encourages the committee to advance this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this perspective on this legislation.

Jay Hall
Deputy Director and General Counsel
Kansas Association of Counties
hall@kansascounties.org
(785)272-2585