Session of 2015

HOUSE BILL No. 2148

By Representatives Clayton, Becker, Bridges, Clark, Dierks, Doll, Finney, Hibbard, Highberger, Hildabrand, Hill, Hineman, Kuether, Lusk, Moxley, Phillips, Rooker, Rubin, Tietze, Trimmer, Ward, Whipple, Williams and Wolfe Moore

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

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. (a) Beginning January 1, 2016, audio broadcasts-shall be made of all legislative committee meetings that convene in the committee rooms designated pursuant to this act committee rooms and that are required to be open to the public pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4317 et seq., and amendments thereto, and shall be made available in real time for public access on the internet. The legislative chief information technology officer shall, in consultation with the legislative coordinating council, designate four committee rooms in the capitol, to be equipped equip these committee rooms with audio broadcasting equipment sufficient to effectuate the provisions of this act. The legislative chief information technology officer shall provide for the operation and maintenance of all such broadcasting devices in a manner sufficient to provide the public with access to all committee meetings held in a-designated committee room. Each committee may suspend this broadcasting requirement by an affirmative vote of ²/₃ of the committee's voting members present at the **committee meeting** when there is an equipment failure and the purpose is not to avoid the requirements of this act. All broadcasts of the legislative proceedings described in this act shall be made available in real time to the public and be accessible, along with archives of all such broadcasts, on the internet

- (b) Following the 2017 legislative session, the legislative chief information technology officer shall report to the legislative coordinating council and the joint committee on information technology on the implementation of the broadcasts of such legislative committee meetings pursuant to this act. In order to prepare such report, the legislative chief information technology officer shall consult with the director of legislative research and the revisor of statutes to prepare information about the: (1) Expenses incurred in order to provide the audio broadcasts of committee meetings:
 - (2) number of visitors listening to the broadcasts;

- (3) feasibility and projected costs of expanding the number of rooms equipped with audio broadcast equipment and the associated costs; and
 - (4) any possible changes to the broadcasting of legislative meetings.
- (c) After review by the joint committee on information technology of the report provided pursuant to this act, and upon the recommendation and approval of the legislative coordinating council, the legislative chief-information technology officer shall designate four additional committee rooms in the capitol to be equipped with audio broadcasting equipment for the 2018 legislative session and to equip all remaining committee rooms in the capitol with audio broadcasting equipment for the 2019 legislative session.
- (d)—For the purposes of this section: (1) "Committee" means any standing committee, subcommittee, conference committee, interim committee or any committee that is established by law or by either presiding officer. "Committee" does not include any convening of a caucus meeting, event or private function; and
- (2) "committee room" means-any room rooms 112-N, 144-N, 152-S, 346-S and 548-S in the state capitol-designated by the legislative chief information technology officer in which a meeting is held that is required to be open to the public pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4317 et seq., and amendments thereto.
 - (d) The provisions of this section shall expire on June 30, 2018.
- Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.