HOUSE BILL No. 2562

By Committee on Federal and State Affairs

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AN ACT concerning the legislature; creating the Kansas transparency act; providing audio and video broadcasts of legislative meetings.

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

Section 1. (a) Beginning on January 1, 2019, audio broadcasts shall be made of all legislative committee meetings that convene in the capitol and that are required to be open to the public pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4317 et seq., and amendments thereto, including the proceedings of the house of representatives and the senate. Such broadcasts shall be made available in real time for public access on the internet.

- (b) Beginning on January 1, 2020, video broadcasts shall be made of all legislative committee meetings that convene in the capitol and that are required to be open to the public pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4317 et seq., and amendments thereto, including the proceedings of the house of representatives and the senate. Such broadcasts shall be made available in real time for public access on the internet.
- (c) The legislative chief information technology officer shall equip all committee rooms in the capitol and the legislative chambers with audio and video broadcasting equipment sufficient to effectuate the provisions of this section. 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 the capitol and the proceedings of the legislative chambers. The legislative chief information technology officer shall implement the provisions of this section in each fiscal year during which the provisions of this section are effective using the same amount of moneys appropriated for such audio and video broadcasts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018.
- (d) The house of representatives, the senate and each committee may suspend the broadcasting requirements of this section by an affirmative vote of $^2/_3$ of such body's voting members when there is an equipment failure and the purpose is not to avoid the requirements of this section.
- (e) All broadcasts of legislative proceedings described in this section shall be made available in real time to the public and be accessible, along with archives of all such broadcasts, on the internet for the duration of the legislative biennium in which such broadcasts were recorded.

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(f) For the purposes of this section, the term "committee" means any standing committee, subcommittee, conference committee, interim committee or any committee that is established by law or by the presiding officer of either legislative chamber.

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