

# **HASKELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

Sheriff Troy M. Briggs,  
Chairman of the Kansas 911 Coordinating Council

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Utilities  
In Support of HB2690

March 6th, 2024

Chairman Fagg and Committee Members:

As an active Council member (2017) and now Chairman for the KS 911 Coordinating Council (2023), I am a proponent to HB2690. As we move to the future of 911 here in Kansas, we find that there is a need for growth through better structure and opportunities.

As we serve the public, we strive to maintain and ensure a continued service to our communities. While this act of legislation would change the current fiscal and administrative structure of the 911 Coordinating Council, it would also still maintain the integrity and role that the Council provides in addressing the technology needs for the future of emergency services.

Under this re-organization, I see this as a move to show further fiscal responsibility to our taxpayers by promoting the transparency of the Councils budget. As with any budget, it is complex and hard to follow. When accounting for potential needs that are un-known or not even imagined in a quickly developing industry, this legislative process provides a level of openness that we can provide to all the parties involved.

This legislation also reinforces the importance of a stakeholder board and its continued oversight. Professionals in the industry, acknowledging what is important to our responders in the field. These stakeholders include the Kansas Sheriff's Association, Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police, Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO), National Emergency Number Association (NENA), and several other key organizations. This not only impacts our 911 centers, but also has a trickle-down effect that reaches all of our first responders who serve our communities.

While this would be a significant step towards solidifying 911 in Kansas, it guarantees that when you dial 911, someone will always be available to answer. Kansas giving Kansans and travelers alike the some of best 911 services available nationwide.

  
Sheriff Troy Briggs