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MEMORANDUM

To: Chairman Barker
Members of the House Committee on Federal and State Affairs

From: Jason B. Long, Senior Assistant Revisor

Date: February 7, 2018

Subject: HB 2562 – Kansas Transparency Act.

House Bill No. 2562 (HB 2562) would create the Kansas Transparency Act. The Act requires audio broadcasts of all legislative committee meetings, including the proceedings of the House of Representatives and the Senate, beginning in 2019. In 2020, the Act expands this requirement to include video broadcasts of all such meetings. The audio and video broadcasts are to be made available to the public on the internet and archived for the duration of the biennium in which they are first broadcast.

HB 2562 requires the Legislative Chief Information Technology Officer to operate and maintain the equipment necessary to implement the Act. The bill further requires that this be done without additional appropriations.

If there is an equipment failure, a legislative committee can waive the broadcasting requirements by a 2/3 vote of the body.

If enacted, HB 2562 would become effective on July 1, 2018.