



**GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS COMMISSION**

<https://ethics.kansas.gov>

**Written Testimony before Senate Ethics, Elections and  
Local Government Committee  
in Support of Senate Bill 58  
by Carol Williams, Executive Director  
February 1, 2017**

SB 58 is a recommendation made by the Governmental Ethics Commission in the agency's 2016 Annual Report and Recommendations. The balloon to SB 58 would require the attribution or "paid for by" or "sponsored by" statement to be displayed on the initial screen of any website, email or other type of internet communication which expressly advocates the nomination, election or defeat of a candidate for state or local office.

Current law requires the attribution statement for internet communications like Facebook and websites to be displayed at the end of the communication. It is frequently difficult to actually scroll to the end of a Facebook page or determine which screen is the end of a website. The Commission believes that prominently displaying the "paid for by" or "sponsored by" statement on the initial screen of the internet communication will provide the public with a consistent location for viewing who is responsible for the internet communication.

The Governmental Ethics Commission stands in support of SB 58 and urges passage of the bill with the above mentioned amendment.