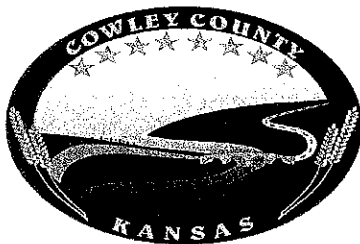


Karen Madison
Cowley County Clerk
kmadison@cowleycounty.org



Amy Wilson
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February 20, 2019

Re: House Bill 2219, Concerning Kansas Open Meeting Act, Relating to Recording of Meetings

Chairman Patton and Distinguished Committee Members,

As Cowley County Clerk and Election Officer, I thank you for your time in allowing me to submit written testimony as an opponent of this bill.

Cowley County is a medium size county committed to open government as much as possible within the constraints that have been placed on County's. We as a county used to record Commission Meetings. The expense burden to purchase and continue to update equipment became too great for our Commissioners to approve. Only once did a citizen request the recording and it was only when that individual addressed the Commission. At the end of life of the equipment, the quality was so poor it was difficult to discern the conversations rendering the recordings useless. There are many meetings by other offices in the county in addition to the Commission Meetings. If this bill were to pass, the expense to record all the open meetings, store the recordings and post those recordings to be open to the public will be costly.

I oppose passage of HB 2219 in its current form.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen Madison".

Karen Madison
Cowley County Clerk/Election Officer