

Date: February 15, 2019
To: Chairman Finch and the House Judiciary Committee
From: The Eudora Senior Foundation
Re: Testimony in Opposition to HB 2219

To Chairman Finch and the House Judiciary Committee:

The Eudora Senior Foundation strongly opposes HB 2219, a bill that would require our organization—and all organizations subject to the Kansas Open Meetings Act—to make video or audio recordings of our meetings accessible to the public within twenty-four hours of each meeting. Not only do we lack the financial resources to comply with this mandate, but we lack the technological skills and abilities as well.

As a 501(c)(3) organization that receives limited funding from the City of Eudora, we are subject to the requirements of the Kansas Open Meetings Act. The Eudora Senior Foundation exists to provide programming and activities to seniors in the Eudora community and to advocate for the advancement of their unique needs. As a newly-formed organization, we do not possess the funding required to capture our meetings using advanced technology, nor do we have an online website or forum through which to make them accessible. Furthermore, the Eudora Senior Foundation is an entirely volunteer-staffed organization. Our membership base consists almost exclusively of senior citizens, most of whom do not possess the necessary skills or capabilities to meet the requirements set forth by HB 2219.

If passed, HB 2219 will impose excessive and unmanageable burdens on the Eudora Senior Foundation and other organizations within our city. These burdens will undoubtedly impede our efforts to provide services to the vulnerable seniors in our community and have the potential to serve as an insurmountable roadblock to carrying out our important mission.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony and for taking time to consider the possible unfavorable repercussions of passage of HB 2219 on organizations like ours across the entire state of Kansas. The Eudora Senior Foundation urges you to vote no on HB 2219.

Sincerely,



Pam Schmeck
Board Member of the Eudora Senior Foundation