Testimony of the Kansas Association of Counties to the House Committee on Judiciary
Opponent Testimony on HB 2424 • February 18, 2020

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing the Kansas Association of Counties to offer testimony on HB 2424, which would make changes to the investigations and open records laws relating to officer involved deaths.

KAC supports transparency in local government, and would encourage that the public receive as much information as possible in matters of public concern. It is critical, however, that this desire to release information be balanced against the safety concerns of all involved, as well as the privacy of those involved.

HB 2424 tilts the balance away from safety and privacy, creating an imbalance between those legitimate concerns and the interest of transparency. KAC would urge the committee to maintain the balance between the safety and privacy interests of those involved and the public interest in transparency by rejecting HB 2424.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Jay Hall

Kansas Association of Counties