Testimony of the Kansas Association of Counties to the Senate Committee on Ethics, Elections and Local Government Proponent Testimony on SB 454 • March 11, 2020

Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing the Kansas Association of Counties to offer testimony regarding SB 454. The Kansas Association of Counties and its member counties support adding exemptions under the Kansas Open Records Act for election security records and cyber security records.

K.S.A. 45-221(a)(12) already exempts records of emergency or security information or procedures. This includes information such as plans, drawings and other information that could be used to compromise the security of a facility. As more and more information is stored digitally, it is important that Kansas law reflect that, particularly with respect to election and cyber security.

By protecting these records, it allows counties to protect their information in the same way that they would protect the physical premises, and the security plans and protocols that govern that security. KAC would ask that the committee recommend this bill favorably for passage.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Jay Hall

Kansas Association of Counties