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Kansas Opening Law Enforcement Records to Public

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP)--Kansas will give its residents more information about the activities of law enforcement agencies under a new law taking effect in July.

Governor Sam Brownback's office announced Thursday that he had signed the measure Wednesday.

Under the new law, affidavits used to support arrest warrants and search warrants will be available upon request to the public. A decades-old statute had closed the records to the public unless a court otherwise ordered them to be unsealed.

Supporters say the new law will make law enforcement agencies more accountable.

Brownback says the new law still protects legitimate law enforcement interests. It allows prosecutors to seek to have records from arrests and search warrants sealed or redacted to protect sensitive information.

Associated Press