SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Hon. Jeff King, Chairman Hon. Greg Smith, Vice Chairman Hon. Haley, R.M. Member

> February 15, 2016 10:30 am Room 346-S

Chief Judge Michael Powers, Eighth Judicial District, mpowers@8thjd.com
Chief Judge Daniel D. Creitz, Thirty-First Judicial District, dancreitz@acdc.kscoxmail.com
Chief Judge James Fleetwood, Eighteenth Judicial District, jfleetwo@dc18.org

WRITTEN NEUTRAL TESTIMONY REGARDING SB 440

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and this honorable committee for extending the opportunity to present neutral written testimony SB 440. We are Michael Powers, Chief Judge of the Eighth Judicial District and President of the Kansas District Judges Association (KDJA), and KDJA Legislative Co-Chairs, Chief Judge Dan Creitz of the Thirty-first Judicial District and Chief Judge James Fleetwood of the Eighteenth Judicial District.

While the intent of this bill may be positive for all branches, more time is needed to examine whether implementation of this bill would have unforeseen consequences. The legislation includes many changes. We would suggest further study of the proposal before moving forward.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Powers Chief Judge, Eighth Judicial District President, KDJA Executive Board

Daniel Dale Creitz Chief Judge, Thirty-First Judicial District KDJA Executive Board Member and Legislative Co-Chair

James Fleetwood Chief Judge, Eighteenth Judicial District KDJA Executive Board Member and Legislative Co-Chair