



Kansas Bureau of Investigation

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Before the Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice
Testimony regarding SB 318 (Neutral)
Bob Stuart, Executive officer
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Chairman Owens and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony regarding SB 318. We note from reviewing the Senate Committee hearing on the matter that there was some confusion about what, if anything, was done with the fingerprint cards in question. As the KBI does, in fact, process and use these fingerprint cards there is a negative impact to this bill that we wish to document for your consideration.

The KBI processes and stores all cards submitted by both livescan and (old fashioned) inked cards mailed to the KBI when they are received, regardless of when the printing occurred. These cards are processed by the KBI Identification division and stored in the state central repository database. By collecting these cards we continue to build that database that is used for background checks, criminal history, search and comparison to latent prints collected at crime scenes, and decedent identification.

There are two laboratories and two police departments within the state that utilize this fingerprint database to search latent prints against the known cards. The fingerprint cards are used for comparison against questioned fingerprints from crime scenes. The KBI Laboratory, Johnson County Crime Laboratory, Wichita Police Department, and Kansas City, Kansas Police Department all use this database for searching, identification, and elimination. These sections utilize the cards in crimes that include, but are not limited to, property crimes and person crimes, including sexual assaults and death investigations. By not collecting these fingerprint cards we are limiting the database which could impact the ability in solving crimes. Furthermore, it could create more work for law enforcement to collect fingerprints from victims, witnesses, and suspects.

Although the full impact cannot be determined, it has been noted in current casework that cards collected solely for one of the violations listed in this bill were used in identifying individuals associated with a crime and for identifying decedents. In the past three years, on average, 1500 fingerprint cards were collected with one of the violations listed in this bill. We cannot know how many of those cards were collected for the sole reason of the violations in this bill. We do know there will be an impact to the database and identification of individuals. It should also be considered that by identifying suspects of nonperson crimes it could prevent individuals from

escalating to committing person crimes. We ask that you consider these factors when you review and work SB 318.

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