

STATE OF KANSAS OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

DEREK SCHMIDT

ATTORNEY GENERAL

MEMORIAL HALL 120 SW 10тн Ave., 2nd Floor Торека, KS 66612-1597 (785) 296-2215 • FAX (785) 296-6296 www.ksag.org

Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 74
Presented to the Senate Judiciary Committee
by Attorney General Derek Schmidt
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Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, thank you for conducting this hearing today on Senate Bill 74.

Senate Bill 74 is another one of the four bills I have proposed this year to strengthen our state's efforts against the sexual exploitation of children. This bill would add convictions for certain child sex crimes to the Kansas forfeiture statute.

As you know, the forfeiture statute provides an additional civil tool that the state can use to seize property used by lawbreakers in the commission of their crimes. In this case, the idea would be to allow the state to bring forfeiture actions against the property of those who exploit children through trafficking in child pornography.

In some cases, the principal effect of this approach would be to deny the pornographer the tools of the trade. In some cases, particularly for larger criminal operations that engage in these crimes on a large scale, sufficient assets may be involved to provide additional revenue to law enforcement agencies, pursuant to the forfeiture act.

This proposal is straightforward. Thank you for your consideration. I would stand for questions.