

Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police

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Testimony to the Senate Judiciary Committee In Support of HB2465

March 5, 2012

Chairperson Owens and Committee Members,

The Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police, the Kansas Sheriffs Association, and the Kansas Peace Officers Association support the lifetime electronic monitoring for offenders convicted of committing the most heinous sex crimes against children as provided in HB2494. Our purpose in supporting this is to minimize the risk to the children in our communities.

The technology available today can assure the highest probability these criminals will not reoffend. If they start down the path of reoffending, this technology can alert authorities to their engagement in the surveillance phase of their planning strategy. This offers the opportunity to intervene prior to the new offense. If the offender does reoffend, the technology will supply information to quickly identify them and remove them from availability to continue their offenses against additional victims. It is clearly the least intrusive method of assuring compliance and public safety available to us today.

The fiscal note on this bill indicates a "negligible" cost that "could be absorbed within existing resources." The cost of not doing this will be immeasurable for any potential victim who could have been protected by this bill becoming law.

The 2012 Legislative Agenda of our associations includes supporting legislation protecting our children. This bill clearly is within that category.

We encourage you to recommend this bill favorably for passage.

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