



**Written Testimony on Senate Bill 61
Senate Judiciary Committee
Kansas Highway Patrol
January 28, 2013**

The Kansas Highway Patrol appreciates the opportunity to provide written testimony regarding Senate Bill 61. The Kansas Highway Patrol, as a member of the Attorney General's Human Trafficking Advisory Board, collaborated with board members on the following revisions concerning crimes, punishment and criminal procedure; relating to human trafficking; human trafficking advisory board; establishing the human trafficking victim assistance fund; creating the crime of commercial sexual exploitation of a child; relating to selling sexual relations, promoting sexual relations, buying sexual relations; children in need of care; staff secure facilities; amending K.S.A. 22-2530 and K.S.A. 2012 Supp. 12-4106, 12-4120, 12-4516, 21-5301, 21-5302, 21-5303, 21-5401, 21-5502, 21-6419, 21-6420, 21-6421, 21-6614, 21-6626, 21-6627, 21-6806, 21-6815, 22-2515, 22-3601, 22-3717, 22-3901, 22-4902, 22-4906, 38-2202, 38-2231, 38-2232, 38-2242, 38-2243, 38-2255, 38-2312, 38-2361, 41-311, 41-2601, 60-4104 and 68-2255 and repealing the existing sections.

Recent research and opinion indicate that Kansas falls short in several key areas in combating human trafficking and sexual exploitation. Those areas include investigative tools, training for law enforcement, adequate facilities for the protection of exploited minors, victim assistance, access to civil damages and a statutorily recognized task force or board.

Kansas has seen a dramatic increase in human trafficking and sexual exploitation in the last several years. A majority of the victims are our very own children who call Kansas home. Many states already have similar legislation in place and it is the Kansas Highway Patrol's position that the revisions proposed with Senate Bill 61 will effectively address many of the gaps in our current laws previously mentioned.

Senate Bill 61 is intended to strengthen laws concerning human trafficking and sexual exploitation of adults and children in the State of Kansas, increase awareness and training for professionals in the field as well as the public, and to allocate funds to care for victims of human trafficking and sexual exploitation.

Again, the Kansas Highway Patrol appreciates the opportunity to provide its input regarding this bill. It is our hope that the committee favorably considers Senate Bill 61 to provide the tools to even more effectively address this nationwide problem.

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