

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Steve Brunk at 9:00 am on Monday, January 26, 2015, 346-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Dick Jones – Excused
Representative Valdenia Winn – Excused
Representative Broderick Henderson – Excused
Representative Louis Ruiz, appointed substitute member to the committee

Committee staff present:

Kyle Hamilton, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Natalie Nelson, Legislative Research Department
Joanna Wochner, Legislative Research Department
Jason Long, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Donola Fairbanks, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Jason Long, Revisor of Statutes
Representative Willie Dove
Fred Farris, President, Kansas City Metro Tactical Officers Association
Andrew Dedeke, Sheriff, Leavenworth County
Donald Ash, Sheriff, Wyandotte County
Larry Larimore, Chief of Police, Shawnee County
Terry Zeigler, Chief of Police
Frank Denning, Kansas Sheriffs' Association Legislative Chair

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

Hearing on: HB2007 — Creating a law enforcement mutual aid region for critical incidents.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am.

The Chair opened the hearing on **HB 2007**. Jason Long gave a brief explanation of the bill. ([Attachment 1](#)) and Representative Dove gave an introduction to the bill. ([Attachment 2](#))

Written testimony in support of **HB 2007** was submitted by:

Fred Farris said that the one hurdle that has not been overcome is the issue of interstate jurisdiction. Crime, emergencies, investigations and critical incidents do not stop at the state line. Officers and agencies are more than willing to come to the aid of their neighboring agencies and deserve the protection afforded through bi-state legislation. ([Attachment 3](#))

Andrew Dedeke said that all communities have that point at which help from outside agencies must be called up. Having the ability to call upon every available resource to respond in a time of crisis benefits the entire law enforcement community, which in turn benefits the communities they serve. ([Attachment 4](#))

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Donald Ash supported this bi-state legislation for the nine county Kansas City Metropolitan area Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Region. As Sheriff of one of the four Kansas counties, I have supported members of my agency participating in the Kansas City Metro Tactical Officers Association. This proposed legislation stipulates that law enforcement officers from the mutual aid region shall be permitted to respond to lawful requests for aid in the mutual aid region. ([Attachment 5](#))

Larry Larimore said that as law enforcement leaders, it is our responsibility to provide our staff the tools and lawful authorities they need to perform their tasks in safeguarding our communities. This legislation will provide our first responding law enforcement officers the statutory authority to respond to critical life and death emergencies. ([Attachment 6](#))

Terry Zeigler indicated that this legislation provides for circumstances defined as incidents that could result in serious physical injury or loss of life. It will improve the ability if law enforcement to better respond to critical life-threatening incidents ([Attachment 7](#))

Written testimony in opposition of **HB 2007** was submitted by:

Frank Denning who said that opposition to HB 2007 is based on how the bill is written, and that it was not vetted appropriately. He recommended that the bill be sent to the Judicial Counsel for review and feels that this bill removes jurisdictional checks and balances, allowing unbridled authority to cross borders based on a vague interpretation of what constitutes a "critical incident." ([Attachment 8](#))

Written Only testimony in support of **HB 2007** was submitted by:

Katie Killen, Assistant City Manager, City of Shawnee ([Attachment 9](#))

Richard Easley, President, Kansas City Metropolitan Crime Commission ([Attachment 10](#))

Wes Jordan, Chief of Police, Prairie Village ([Attachment 11](#))

Thomas Honsglo, Chief of Police, Lenexa, Kansas ([Attachment 12](#))

Kirk Davis and Hannes Zacharias, Co-Chairs, Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Committee ([Attachment 13](#))

Mark Owen, Sheriff, Platte County ([Attachment 14](#))

Mike Sharp, Sheriff, Jackson County ([Attachment 15](#))

Frank Donchez, Overland Park Police Department ([Attachment 16](#))

Eric Smith, Legal Counsel, League of Kansas Municipalities ([Attachment 17](#))

Steve Menke, Chief of Police, Olathe Police Department ([Attachment 18](#))

Mike Taylor, Public Relations Director, Unified Government Public Relations ([Attachment 19](#))

Written Only testimony as neutral of **HB 2007** was submitted by:

Derek Schmidt, Attorney General ([Attachment 20](#))

Chairman Brunk advised the committee that he would hold the hearing open to a later date. The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 am

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