

Testimony HB 2007:

Willie Dove, Kansas State Representative

District #38

Thank You Federal and State Affairs Committee for allowing me to give testimony to HB 2007.

There are a few points interest that you are well aware of from the volatile news reported around the globe. Make no mistake about it, because many of us live in neighbor hoods where safety can be taken for granted. Why is that? We live in a county where we have protection within seconds and minutes when a crises situation takes and there is no time lost because Law enforcement can act swiftly within regarding the jurisdiction. Can anyone here speak with complete confidence that that thought is secure on the states borders of Kansas and Missouri? Who here wants to think about who is in charge when your loved ones lives are in danger.

This Bill if passed will result in a bi-state agreement between Kansas & Missouri to protect our citizens. On its border counties only. When the (IC) incident Commander feels the need to request assistance. (Example: Sniper, active shootings where precious moments could be the difference between life and death. When the home state cannot respond with the necessary trained personnel immediately there is help on its way. The communications factor between the two states are in place today. The passing of HB2007 makes the Kansas City Metro area stronger in many ways.

When this bill was first introduced in Missouri the makers of the bill felt it would take much longer to produce positive results. Much to their surprise Governor Nixon signed the bill without reservation.

I visited with the Kansas Law-enforcement representation of the proposed bill several times to discuss the need of the proposed bill and potential problems that could present itself from a do nothing environment. We must stand ready to protect the public and private schools that our kids attend on the border of both states. There are other Key areas of vulnerability: Air freight, public air flights. There are two main control air towers within 20 miles of each other.

I have presented this bill to the Kansas Attorney General Office and the concern was that the home state of the Law enforcement personnel was still responsible for all actions of it Peace officers when responding to the call for assistance.

I visited with an opponent of the bill to find very little to dampen the encouragement for its passing out of this Committee

I then spoke with Sheriff Andy Dedeke of Leavenworth County to help me understand why the differences in the importance of public safety regardless of which side of the state line citizens of the Kansas Metro Area chose to work and enjoy Midwestern life.

I urge you to pass HB 2007 bill out of committee favorably and give the House a chance to put the protection of Kansas Citizens first with respect to the Law. When we put the safety of citizens first we protect the borders that make us stronger when attacked by extremist of any kind.

Willie Dove

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