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**Neutral testimony on House Bill 2007
Presented to the House Committee on Federal and State Affairs
By Chief Deputy Attorney General Jeff Chanay**

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Chairman Brunk and members of the committee, thank you for this opportunity to present neutral testimony on House Bill 2007.

Attorney General Schmidt has long supported the use of mutual aid in the law enforcement community as a means of ensuring effective law enforcement responses in times of critical need. House Bill 2007 is designed to create a bi-state mutual aid region for critical incidents that occur in four Kansas and five Missouri counties.

If the Legislature adopts HB 2007, the attorney general suggests that the following language be added to the end of section 1(e) of the bill: "The Kansas tort claims act, K.S.A. 75-6101, et seq., and the Kansas workers compensation act, K.S.A. 44-501, et seq., shall be interpreted consistent with the provisions of this section." The attorney general believes that this language will better clarify that the out-of-state law enforcement officers that respond to a critical incident are not creating additional potential liability for the state or local units of government. We believe that this suggestion is wholly consistent with the intent of the supporters of the bill.

The attorney general appreciates the efforts of the supporters of this legislation to address this issue.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

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