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To: Representative John Barker, Chairman
Members of the House Judiciary Committee

From: Callie Jill Denton
Executive Director

Date: March 10, 2015

RE: SB 44 Docket fees; electronic filing and management fund (As Amended by the Senate) (SUPPORT)

The Kansas Association for Justice (KsAJ) is a nonprofit professional organization of Kansas trial attorneys. KsAJ supports SB 44 related to the Judicial Branch electronic filing management fund.

SB 44 removes the current restrictions on the use of funds in the electronic filing management fund, which are earmarked for electronic courts (e-courts). SB 44 allows the Supreme Court to direct the use of funds already collected to deal with a revenue shortfall for the current fiscal year, ending June 30.

KsAJ believes it is a priority for the Judicial Branch to address the FY 2014-15 revenue shortfall. SB 44 provides that the diverted funds will be restored in future years, and the e-courts project will not be jeopardized by diverting funds in this fiscal year.

On behalf of the members of KsAJ, I respectfully request your support for SB 44.