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MEMORANDUM

TO: House Judiciary Committee

FROM: Kansas Judicial Council – Nancy Strouse

DATE: January 26, 2016

RE: Testimony on 2015 SB 17

The purpose of SB 17 is to expand the membership of the Kansas Judicial Council by adding two new members, the chairs of the House and Senate Corrections and Juvenile Justice Committees.

It is the opinion of the Judicial Council that the Corrections and Juvenile Justice Committee chairs should be members of the Council. The Legislature frequently asks the Council to conduct studies and make recommendations in both the criminal and juvenile areas.

The Council currently has ten members. With the addition of the two new members, the composition of the Council will be four legislators, four judges, and four attorneys.

Amendment to Effective Date

At the request of the Judicial Council, the Senate amended Section 3 of the bill to change the effective date from publication in the statute book to publication in the Kansas register. The Council generally meets twice each year, in June and December. If the bill becomes effective upon publication in the Kansas register, the new members will be able to participate in the June meeting.