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**Testimony to the House Judiciary Committee
In Support of HB2553
February 4, 2016**

Chairman Barker and Committee Members,

Our associations support the Kansas Commission on Police Officer Standards and Training. The Commission is the regulatory arm of Kansas law enforcement. They serve to assure officers meet appropriate training standards, as well as, standards of ethical conduct. The Commission is a vital component of assuring Kansans they are protected by a well trained and professional law enforcement officers.

This bill does not change the revenue source for funding the Commission operations. That source is municipal court docket fees. This appears to be an appropriate funding source. Over the years, the funding from docket fees has dropped due to a decreasing number of cases. This has resulted in a need for a modification of the docket fee collected for this purpose. We support this increase in fees.

The central registry is a software system operated by the Commission to maintain the records of all Kansas law enforcement officers. This system is very dated and was the subject of a recent security audit which found it deficient. We need to update this system to assure our officers' information is maintained in the most secure setting possible. Law enforcement is a major target of hackers. Just this past week a major national law enforcement organization's officer database was breached revealing addresses and other personal information of many officers across the country. This is part of the reason for this needed fee increase.

We urge you to recommend this bill favorably to pass.

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