



Testimony of the Kansas Association of Counties
To the Senate Judiciary Committee
Proponent for SB 185 (Reimbursement for Counties under SVPA)

February 23, 2015

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

As part of the Sexually Violent Predators Act (SVPA), counties bear the responsibility and cost of treatment.¹ The caveat, however, is that counties may seek reimbursement from the State for providing the services.² Counties have protested this state mandate and funding mechanism since the law's enactment in the early 90s, so we support any change that treats the SVPA as a shared venture between the State and counties. Though the counties would prefer that the State directly paid for patients in the State's care, we support this change to ensure a clearer reimbursement process.

SB 185 helps accomplish this goal. The bill clarifies that counties bear certain costs under the program. It also adds a reimbursement process through Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services, while maintaining the additional reimbursement process through a claim against the state. KAC supports SB 185 on behalf of its counties and asks this committee to do the same.

Respectfully,
Nathan Eberline
Legal Counsel

¹ K.S.A. 59-29a04(c).

² *Id.*