



Kansas County & District Attorneys Association

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To: Chairman Wilborn and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee
From: Kim Parker, Prosecutor Coordinator
Kansas County and District Attorneys Association
Date: February 12th, 2018
Re: Proponent Testimony for Senate Bill 374

Good Afternoon Chairman Wilborn and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony for SB374. I am addressing you on behalf of the Kansas County and District Attorney's Association and the many Kansas prosecutors they represent.

Our association often gathers together prosecutors across Kansas to create think tanks to help problem solve and suggest remedies. Over the last two years, we have tasked our most experienced DUI prosecutors to carefully evaluate the multiple issues, both legal and practical that plague DUI prosecutions and recommend comprehensive legislation that will bring Kansas statutes in sync with both United States Supreme Court and Kansas Appellate Court decisions SB374 is the result of that weighty challenge and represents a thorough and measured vetting by a group of dedicated prosecuting attorneys familiar with the multiple legal decisions that have served to make our existing DUI statutes nonfunctional. While this bill may seem complicated to unfamiliar eyes these changes in DUI law are necessary to allow prosecutors to carry out their primary obligation to protect the safety of Kansas citizens from those who endanger the lives and property of others by driving under the influence on Kansas roadways.

This bill helps clarify and correct many important concerns including:

- **the lawful determination of prior convictions of DUI**
- **the protection of all minors riding in a vehicle with an impaired driver**
- **the court decisions that have affected the impediments to the collection and notice of breath and blood testing.**
- **issues with absconders from court orders**
- **recognizes the class of drug impaired drivers whose state of intoxication and impairment is due to the use of illegal drugs or unlawfully used substances.**

We urge the passage of this critical bill.

Kim T Parker
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