



Kansas Sheriffs' Association

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**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Judiciary
Proponent to HB 2459-Kansas Standard Asset Seizure and Forfeiture Act
March 14, 2018**

Chairman Wilborn and Committee Members,

The Kansas Sheriff's Association submits testimony as a proponent of HB 2459.

Kansas Post Audit conducted a lengthy and thorough report on asset seizure and forfeiture. The report pointed out deficiencies in the current statute along with reporting deficiencies. The KSA is supportive of the Kansas Post Audit report and believe the current HB 2459 addresses these deficiencies as well as creates standards for law enforcement to follow.

The provisions on page 23, line 9 to page 24, line 32, creates the expenditure standards that were needed. These standards are the same as the Federal Forfeiture expenditure standards which will eliminate confusion while adding clarity. This area solidifies what forfeited monies can be spent on, which was lacking in the previous statute.

The data proposals of the bill are very important. Accurate data will not only dispel erroneous or partial information on the forfeiture activity in Kansas, but will also offer information in the future to assure legislative changes are needed. The Kansas Bureau of Investigation is the ideal agency to house the data repository. However, due to startup costs and maintenance for the system, monies will have to be appropriated to the Kansas Bureau of Investigation to ensure proper functionality.

The Kansas Sheriff's Association is a proponent of this bill as written. We thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to provide testimony on this bill.

Sheriff Jeffrey T. Easter
Legislative Chair for the Kansas Sheriff's Association