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SHERIFF



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Testimony in Support of SB282
Before the Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee
Malinda Spangler, Technical Leader of Controlled Substances
Johnson County Sheriff's Office Criminalistics Laboratory
January 24, 2018

Madam Chair Schmidt and Members of the Committee:

Please accept on behalf of the Johnson County Sheriff's Office Criminalistics Laboratory my written testimony in support of SB 282. Senate Bill 282 proposes to amend K.S.A. 65-4105, 65-4107, and 65-4109.

Many of the amendments offered in this bill address emerging drug threats in our state that pose risks to the health and safety of Kansas citizens. Other amendments are intended to ensure Kansas drug schedules remain current with federal drug schedules.

Senate Bill 282 addresses several "designer drugs," which are drugs that have been specifically and deliberately altered to mimic the pharmacological effects of a controlled substance while circumventing existing drug laws.

The recommended changes included in SB 282 are as follows:

- Addition of 13 fentanyl analogs to Schedule I
 - There is an opioid epidemic across the United States in which heroin, fentanyl and fentanyl-related compounds are being abused. In order to circumvent the law, and because of their potency, many drug suppliers are turning to the fentanyl-related compounds that are not currently controlled. These compounds are significantly more potent than heroin and fentanyl, which leads to an increased danger of non-fatal overdose and death. As such, these fentanyl analogs pose a serious risk to the health and safety of Kansas citizens.
 - In 2017, the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) either placed or gave notice of intent to place all 13 of these compounds temporarily into Scheduled I of the Federal Controlled Substances Act.
- Addition of Mitragynine and 7-Hydroxymitragynine to Schedule I
 - At low doses, Mitragynine and 7-Hydroxymitragynine produce a stimulant effect and at higher doses opiate effects are produced.

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- Addition of MT-45 to Schedule I
 - MT-45 is an opioid analgesic drug with pharmacological effects similar to morphine. It is a piperazine derivative and is structurally unrelated to most other opioids.
 - According to the DEA, there have been deaths associated with MT-45 abuse in the US and in Europe as well as non-fatal overdoses.
 - MT-45 was placed into Schedule I of the Federal Controlled Substances Act on January 12, 2018.
- Addition of a chemical group to 9 cannabinoid groups in Schedule I
 - Adds *cyanoalkyl* to the list of allowed substitutions. This will capture new synthetic cannabinoids that have been seen in the last year.
- Addition of a chemical group to the Indazole-3-carboxamide cannabinoid group in Schedule I
 - Adds *benzyl* to the list of allowed substitutions to the nitrogen atom of the carboxamide.
- Addition of a new cannabinoid group to Schedule I
 - *Indole-3-carboxamides* is added as a cannabinoid group. This is very similar to the current group *Indazole-3-carboxamide* and will capture MDMB-CHIMICA, which was federally controlled in 2017.
- Addition of 4-anilino-N-phenethyl-4-piperidine to Schedule II
 - ANPP is an immediate precursor to fentanyl and has been federally controlled since 2008.
- Addition of Dronabinol in oral solutions to Schedule II
 - The DEA placed this into Schedule II in 2017.
- Update the list of Anabolic Steroids in Schedule III
 - This updated list cleans up the previous list and is the same as the federal statutes.

The Johnson County Sheriff's Office Criminalistics Laboratory strongly supports this amendment. Although we continue to see emerging designer drugs each year, our laboratory does experience significant decreases in controlled designer drug case submissions each time legislative control efforts have been enacted.

Respectfully Submitted,


Malinda Spangler