

CALVIN H. HAYDEN
SHERIFF



DOUGLAS G. BEDFORD
UNDERSHERIFF

DUTY HONOR SERVICE
588 E. SANTA FE, SUITE 2000
OLATHE, KS 66061
www.jocosherriff.org

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare In Support of SB282
January 24, 2018**

Madame Chair Schimdt and Committee Members,

The Johnson County Sheriff's Office supports SB282 amending the drug schedules. This bill adds several fentanyl analogs to the drug schedule. The prevalence of these compounds puts the public and law enforcement at risk.

In May of 2017 a cache of sixteen pounds of opioid fentanyl was seized from a house in Kansas City, Kansas. Narcotics agents wore Tyvek body suits, self-contained breathing apparatuses, inner and outer gloves, and boots to prevent contact with the deadly drug. Dosage of fentanyl is measured in micrograms. Imagine taking a grain of salt and dividing it six ways. Just one of those six pieces could kill a person.

Our deputies usually encounter fentanyl, in smaller amounts, on traffic stops with couriers who are taking the drug to larger cities on the east coast where it is mixed with heroin and sold. However, the evidence points to larger stockpiles of the drug making its way to Kansas. Exposure to this drug can be through inhalation, skin absorption, and ingestion. Skin absorption is the most common method of contact for law enforcement. It poses an extreme risk to the men and women of our agency.

The Johnson County Sheriff's Office urges your support of SB282 and we ask you to recommend it favorably for passage.

Greg Smith
Johnson County Sheriff's Office
Sheriff's Liaison
Phone: 913.249.2954
Email: gregory.smith@jocogov.org