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House Judiciary Committee, Fred Patton, Chair
Testimony in Opposition to HB2667
Tuesday, February 18, 2020 Room 346-S

Mr. Chairman and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to express my views on HB 2667. This bill has many positive elements. However, Section (e) is not strong enough to assure a decedent's next of kin could still know all the facts uncovered in the investigation less redactions. Having access to the investigation file (with redactions) is an important element that is missing. A summary report by its nature will omit details that may be important to the family and adds an element of distrust as to what has been included or excluded. It is this building of trust that is imperative in these tragic circumstances.

Additionally, I would rather have this issue reviewed and a report prepared for the Judiciary Committee by the Judicial Council than pass HB 2667. The inclusion and input from Interested persons and experts in the field could lead to a better public policy for Kansas. I would recommend Ron Keefover, Sheila Albers, Patrick Hurley, Max Kautsch and myself as potential individuals to be included during any discussion by the Judicial Council.