STATE OF KANSAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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CHRISTOPHER D. CROFT

8TH DISTRICT

House Committee on Judiciary Kansas State Capitol 300 SW 10th Street Topeka, Kansas 66612 February 17, 2020

Chairman Patton and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to state my support for HB2667.

When I campaigned in 2018, I spoke with many constituents, however, one really stood out. She had been through a horrific event resulting in the death of her son. While we don't agree on several issues I was impacted by her story.

As many of you know, I spent 30 years in the U.S. Army retiring in 2018. I am shaped by my experiences. It was the intersection of the story and my Army experiences that led to the creation of HB2667.

In the Army, when incidents happen, investigation were initiated. The degree of the investigation and other actions depended on the severity of the incident. The investigator provided feedback along the way. Once the investigation was complete the investigator submitted their findings to the appropriate authority who decided whether to file charges. That authority then filed the applicable documents. If the incident involves a death, there was a notification and assistance aspect.

I have personally been involved in every aspect of this process in my Army career. It is what shaped the structure of HB2667. The bill contains a process for investigating an officer involved death, a report to the County or District Attorney, an update of the status of the investigation, a determination, and a summary report to the next of kin (if desired).

In developing the language, we brought together all sides to get an understanding of their position. In doing so, I was encouraged by the aspirations of all parties to work together to find a solution.

I respectfully request your support of HB2667.

Sincerely

Chris Croft