



**STATE OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
CRIME VICTIMS COMPENSATION BOARD**

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To: Chairman Wilborn and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee

From: Richard A. Samaniego, Chair of the Kansas Crime Victims Compensation Board

Re: Written Testimony in Support of HB 2290

Date: March 19, 2019

On behalf of the Kansas Crime Victims Compensation Board (CVCB), I thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 2290. The CVCB is dedicated to assisting victims of crimes in Kansas with compensation for loss of earnings and out-of-pocket medical expenses as a direct result of a violent crime. The Board also approves claims to assist victims' families with reimbursement of funeral, burial or cremation expenses as well as grief therapy.

The CVCB is composed of a three-member board with each member appointed by the Attorney General subject to Senate confirmation. The current board members include me, Tom Williams and Nan Porter. The CVCB meets once a month to review and approve claims to be paid from the Crime Victims Compensation Fund and to hear requests for reconsideration for denied claims pursuant to the Kansas Administrative Procedure Act. The Board recently met on Thursday, February 14, 2019, and unanimously voted to support HB 2290 as introduced.

HB 2290 simply codifies a memorandum of understanding executed by the Board in 2012 to allow the Office of the Attorney General to administer the staffing and administrative operations of the Crime Victims Compensation Board. The staffing and support functions by the Attorney General are essential to allow the Board to remain focused on the core mission of serving victims of crimes in Kansas and their families by promptly approving claims.

I respectfully request the committee's favorable recommendation of the legislation. Thank you for your time, attention, and consideration in this matter. Please feel free to contact me if you have additional questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard A. Samaniego, Chair