

STATE OF KANSAS  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE CAPITOL  
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MIKE DODSON  
LT GEN, USA, (RET)  
REPRESENTATIVE 67TH DISTRICT

Thank you, Mr. Chair, for the opportunity to say a few words.

I would first like to recognize all of the law enforcement officers behind me. I served in the Army for 37 years and have great respect for what they do for us, particularly for keeping us safe over the past couple of years through these unusual times.

Being from Riley County it is nearly mandatory i come to speak. I appreciate the language in the proposed Bill that exempts Counties who adopted other plans before 11 January 2021.

I would prefer we not give mandates to our Counties. We just passed a Bill on 22 November expressing our opposition to mandates from the Federal Government. We should not impose those same mandates on our Municipalities.

Each of our Counties is unique and should be able to form their law enforcement according to their individual needs. In Riley County we have Fort Riley next door and Kansas State University has its own police force.

Our Riley County Consolidated Police Department has saved us money and has produced efficiencies for the operation of the Jail and other specialty services that separate Sheriff and Police Departments would not be able to afford. This is even more pronounced for small Counties and Cities. The Riley County Police Department operates under the requirements of CALEA which makes the police department accountable for adhering to the best practices in law enforcement. I believe it best always to have law enforcement to report to someone.

Like Director Butler I do have concerns that the Bill might not come out the same way it came in. I also wonder why it is necessary to have this Bill be irrevocable. We should allow Counties to change as conditions change.

Thank you Mr. Chair and I will stand for questions.

NOTE: I told Chair Barker I would provide information on CALEA. That follows:

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In 1991 when the RCPD became the first Kansas law enforcement to earn international accreditation through The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement (CALEA). This means that your police department is accountable for adhering to the best practices in law enforcement. Accreditation is voluntary and only 5% of all law enforcement agencies in this country have embraced this standard. All three Departments I served in are accredited. More information about CALEA and the accredited departments in Kansas can be found at <https://www.calea.org>

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[www.calea.org](http://www.calea.org)

Testing the home teaser text.

Michael L Dodson  
Representative, District 67