



**Kansas Association of
Chiefs of Police**

PO Box 2163
Hutchinson, KS 67504
(620)899-4122



**Kansas Sheriffs
Association**

PO Box 1122
Pittsburg, KS 66762
(620)230-0864



**Kansas Peace Officers
Association**

PO Box 2592
Wichita, KS 67201
(316)722-8433

**Testimony to the Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee
In Support of HB2062
March 16, 2021**

Chairman Hilderbrand and Committee Members:

Our associations support the provisions in HB2062 allowing the State Child Death Review Board to disclose information to law enforcement and prosecutors in certain situations. This is the provision found on page 3 lines 8-19 of the bill in section 1 subsections (j)(4) and (5).

We are not certain how often the listed conditions would occur to utilize this new authorization to share information. But we hope you all would agree this limited disclosure of information for investigative purposes is good public policy to protect our children regardless of the frequency it occurs. If there is any reason for the Board to believe law enforcement is either not aware of a case of child abuse or neglect resulting in death or if there is additional information that would either clear a suspect or help bring a suspect to justice, it would be unconscionable for that information to not be passed to a criminal investigative agency.

AMENDMENT SUGGESTION:

SB83 was initially an identical bill to the current HB2062. Your committee amended SB83 by adding to subsection (B) in both subsection (j)(4) and (j)(5) “. . .(C) if the Board has knowledge of a law enforcement investigation involving the death of a child.” We believe this is an important provision that could provide potential exculpatory information helpful to avoid a wrongful conviction. Those amendments would be to lines 8-19 on page 3 of the bill. The additional language would allow the sharing of the information not previously available to the investigators if the Board were aware an investigation was being conducted related to the child’s death. In those cases, it would be important for the law enforcement investigator to examine the information not currently in their possession that led the Board possesses.

We urge you to move HB2062 forward with the same or similar amendment as placed into SB83.

Ed Klumpp, Legislative Liaison
eklumpp@cox.net
(785) 640-1102