



**Kansas Association of
Chiefs of Police**

PO Box 780603
Wichita, KS 67278
(316)733-7300



**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 House Corrections and Juvenile Justice Committee
In Support of HB2625
March 1, 2018**

Chairman Jennings and Committee Members:

Our associations support HB2625, which will amend the records handling provisions of the laws governing the Commission on Police Officers Standards and Training to mirror other regulatory agencies in Kansas. This bill is the result of work by the Judicial Council and was well vetted in that process. Two major provisions of current law are improved by this bill. First, the contents of the “Registry” started as a very narrow collection of information. It had never been well defined and as it evolved over time the term “registry” began to encompass more information held by the Commission. Second, the current law states the “registry shall be made available only to those agencies who appoint or elect police or law enforcement officers.” That language is overreaching toward closure and did not provide proper guidance on information that should be available to the public.

We support the limited release for specific purposes of the information in the registry as provided on page 1 lines 23 through page 2 line 3. This limited disclosure is necessary for proper vetting of law enforcement applicants and other purposes when dealing with persons who are, or have been previously, certified by the Commission.

We also support the public release through KORA of records regarding law enforcement personnel and Commission action as provided on page 2, lines 4-31. This information should be available to the public, which it technically isn’t under current law.

The Commission has done a commendable job of handling the requests for appropriate records with the existing law. The existing law is not clear in some areas and could thwart appropriate public disclosure of certain records that should be public.

We urge you to recommend HB2625 favorably for passage.

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