



**Kansas Association of
Chiefs of Police**
PO Box 780603
Wichita, KS 67278
(316)733-7300



**Kansas Peace Officers
Association**
PO Box 2592
Wichita, KS 67201
(316)722-8433

**Testimony to the Senate Utilities Committee
In Support of SB420
February 28, 2018**

Chairman Olson and Committee Members:

Our associations support SB420 and the continued progress in 911 technology implementation it will provide. Kansas has become a leader in implementation of 911 technology. As we all know technology comes at a price, but the public safety benefits are increasingly important.

The major points of our support are the changes in administrative provisions of the bill. Several of these amendments to the existing 911 Act were worked out between the law enforcement associations and the 911 Coordinating Council to address several areas we believe need clarification. These include training standards (page 5, lines 30-33; page 6, lines 1-2), expenditure pre-approval and appeal processes (page 15 line 40 through page 16 line 5), and establishing limits to civil penalties imposed on PSAPs (page 5 line 43 through page 6 line 2; page 7 lines 11-2). These changes will provide a path to remove some of the issues creating friction between the Coordinating Council and local law enforcement operating PSAPs.

A proposal was also made by the Coordinating Council to add as an allowable expenditure paying up to a total of 24 hours of salary for PSAP personnel to attend training (page 15, lines 32-34). We support this Coordinating Council recommendation. While we believe the provision on page 15, line 28 was intended by the legislature to include salaries, the Coordinating Council has determined it does not. This is particularly important for PSAPs where a person gone for training often must be replaced by a coworker on overtime.

There are about 24 PSAPs operated by city police departments. The majority of those are in small jurisdictions. We hear from some of these PSAPs they are having to expend more of their general fund dollars on PSAP expenses allowable from 911 funds but exceed their allotted funding. The data in appendix B of the Coordinating Council testimony indicates that is the case in 11 of the 24 city operated PSAPs. This bill would also increase the minimum annual funding from \$50,000 to \$60,000. This would be the first increase in funding for these PSAPs receiving minimum funding since the new funding mechanism was put into place in 2011. We also understand the annual operating costs for the ESInet system being installed will create an additional annual operating cost to the PSAPs.

We also recognize the need to fund future technology to meet demands from our citizens in how they connect and share information to 911. While we are aware of some of those general advances, we are not experts in this future technology nor the funding needed to implement it. Therefore, we defer to the Coordinating Council on information regarding funding to support future technology in the Kansas 911 environment.

We ask you to recommend SB420 favorably for passage.

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