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Office of Judicial Administration

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House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice Proponent Testimony on 2020 House Bill 2496

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Good afternoon Chairman Jennings and Committee Members. My name is Amy Raymond and I am the Director of Trial Court Programs for the Office of Judicial Administration (OJA). I am here this afternoon to offer proponent testimony on 2020 House Bill 2496 (HB 2496).

Currently, K.S.A. 8-246 allows offenders under Kansas Department of Corrections supervision to obtain a certificate of identification from a supervision officer to assist in obtaining a replacement driver's license. HB 2496 would allow court services officers and community corrections officers to issue similar certificates to offenders under supervision by those entities. Lack of a driver's license could be a barrier to addressing an offender's risks and needs. An ID can be important for accessing the resources needed to address the risk, which in turn could assist in reducing an offender's risk of recidivism. OJA asks that the committee pass HB 2496 favorably.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer this testimony to the committee. I am happy to answer any questions from the committee.