



Kansas County & District Attorneys Association

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To: Hon. Susan Concannon, Chair, House Children and Seniors
From: Darrin Devinney, Butler County Attorney/KCDAA President
Date: February 9, 2022

Re: Testimony in Support of HB 2582

Hon. Chairman Concannon and members of the House Children and Seniors Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 2582. This testimony is presented on behalf of the Kansas County and District Attorneys Association (KCDAA).

The KCDAA is proud to stand with our friends in law enforcement in support of this bill. HB 2582 would strengthen the existing partnership between law enforcement and the Department of Children and Families (DCF), providing an efficient process of information sharing that will allow both parties to close the information exchange gap in investigations.

Even with current DCF cooperation, investigators and law enforcement continue to receive redacted reports that leave out crucial information for ongoing investigations. Less information means less answers to the information needed to investigate an inquiry and more time needed to address crimes, complaints, and the needs of Kansas citizens. This bill will not only create a more efficient information sharing relationship between agencies but will also give investigators the crucial information they need for a deliberate approach to addressing investigations and protecting Kansans. Protecting our state's most vulnerable citizens is a top priority of this bill and the proponents involved.

We support this bill as an effective partnership between law enforcement and our state agencies. This approach will not only save time and resources but will allow law enforcement to prevent future crimes by maximizing efficiency in their investigations. KCDAA appreciates the collaborative approach that DCF and our friends in law enforcement took in crafting this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of this bill. As proponents of HB 2582, KCDAA asks that you report this bill favorably for passage. I will stand for questions at the appropriate time.

Sincerely,

Darrin Devinney
Butler County Attorney
President, Kansas County and District Attorneys Association