



DISTRICT COURT OF KANSAS

TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
JOHNSON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
150 WEST SANTA FE STREET
OLATHE, KANSAS
66061

CHAMBERS OF:

THOMAS KELLY RYAN
CHIEF JUDGE
DIVISION NO. 17
(913) 715-3910

LACY LINDLEY
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

DEBBIE RANDOLPH
COURT REPORTER

February 22, 2021

HOUSE CORRECTIONS AND JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Representative Russ Jennings, Chairman
Representative Stephen Owens, Vice-Chairman
Representative Boog Highberger, Ranking Minority Leader

February 23, 2021
1:30 p.m.

Written Proponent Testimony

[HB 2346](#)—Pretrial supervision practices in District Courts

Hon. Thomas Kelly Ryan
Chief Judge, Tenth Judicial District

Chairman Jennings and members of committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of HB 2346. While this bill makes several changes to the structure of statutes governing pretrial supervision, my testimony primarily concerns the component of the bill that establishes an optional mechanism for paying court services officers' salaries.

[K.S.A. 22-2802](#) permits the court to assess a fee of up to \$15 per week for pretrial supervision. This money is used to pay for costs related to the supervision and is currently routed through the county. At present, there is no statutory avenue for this money to be sent to the state to pay for court services officer (CSO) salaries. HB 2346 would create an optional avenue for chief judges to remit these funds (in whole or in part) to the state for the purpose of paying CSO salaries.

Committee members involved with budget discussions are likely already aware of the judicial branch's need for additional CSOs. That need is addressed more fully in other judicial branch testimony submitted in support of this bill. Johnson County stands to benefit from the changes proposed in HB 2346 because it will aid our court in filling an existing funding gap for CSOs in our district. If implemented, we estimate that the new law could help fund up to 3.5 CSO positions in Johnson County. Similar benefits may be possible in other judicial districts throughout the State.

I also write in support of the remaining elements of HB 2346 that establish a statutory right for a defendant to request waiver of the pretrial supervision fee and expand options for pretrial supervision oversight. These changes will update the law to better address pretrial supervision program needs and practices throughout the state.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this legislation.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Kelly Ryan

Thomas Kelly Ryan
Chief Judge
10th Judicial District