



Kansas Bureau of Investigation

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Neutral Testimony on House Bill 2008
Presented to the House Committee on the Judiciary
by Robert Jacobs, Executive Officer
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Chairman Patton and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written neutral testimony regarding House Bill 2008.

In 1984, The Kansas Legislature authorized the creation of the Missing Persons Clearinghouse. The Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) was tasked with maintaining information related to missing and unidentified persons in Kansas. As required through K.S.A. 75-712(b)(c) (d), law enforcement agencies in Kansas are required to submit to the KBI's Missing Persons Clearinghouse all information relating to missing or unidentified persons or human remains in the State of Kansas. Each year, an annual report containing aggregate data on missing and unidentified persons is made available to the public through the Attorney General's Office.

Demographic information relevant to each missing and unidentified person is captured to assist with locating the missing individual. Examples of some of the demographic information collected include: name, date of birth, gender, race, height, weight, eye color and hair color. When looking specifically at race, the following options for identification are available: White, Black, Asian/Pacific Islander, American Indian/Native Alaskan, or unknown. According to the U.S. Census website, American Indian and Native Alaskans account for 1.3% of the population in the United States. Comparatively, in Kansas, this same group represents 1.2% of the population.

A review of the data contained within the KBI Missing Persons Clearinghouse between the years 1984 and 2020 identified 2,402 American Indian or Native Alaskans who have been reported missing in Kansas. Of those 2,402 individuals, 2,397 (or 99.7%) have been located.

An examination of the data from the past ten years (2010 – 2020), indicated 522 American Indian or Native Alaskans have been reported missing. During this same time, the total number of people reported missing was 58,682. As such, American Indian or Native Alaskans represented .8% of the total number of reported missing persons in Kansas. Of the 522 reported missing between 2010 and 2020, 277 were female and 245 were male.

Currently, there are five people still listed as missing. Those five individuals include one male and four females, with an average age of 28 years old.

The KBI also maintains the Kansas Incident Based Reporting System, or KIBRS. Pursuant to K.S.A. 21-5201(a), each law enforcement agency in Kansas is required to submit incident reports to the KBI for criminal offenses that occur within their respective jurisdictions. Over 200,000 offense and arrest reports are received to the KIBRS repository each year.

Between the years 2010 and 2017, 989 homicides were reported in Kansas. American Indian or Native Alaskans were reported as victims in 10 of those homicides. These 10 homicides represent 1% of the 989 reported homicides. The ten victims included nine males and one female. Like the five missing people, the average age of the 10 homicide victims was also 28 years old.

There have been no American Indian or Native Alaskan homicide victims reported in Kansas since 2017.

The KBI appreciates the Legislature's attention to this important issue. Thank you for including the KBI in the proposed bill, and we stand ready to assist the Attorney General's Office if this bill is adopted.

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