



KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF COURT SERVICES OFFICERS

TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
BRYAN J. WEISER, LEGISLATIVE CHAIRPERSON
KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF COURT SERVICES OFFICERS (KACSO)
ON HB 2055 – PERSONAL AND FAMILY PROTECTION ACT; PUBLIC BUILDINGS;
ADEQUATE SECURITY
FEBRUARY 21, 2013

Representative Siegfried and Members of the Committee:

My name is Bryan Weiser and I am a Court Services Officer (CSO) for the 9th Judicial District. I serve as the Legislative Chairperson for the Kansas Association of Court Services Officers (KACSO). I would like to thank the committee for giving me the opportunity to provide written testimony in regards to HB 2055.

Very briefly, CSOs are employed within all 31 judicial districts and provide invaluable services to the District Courts of Kansas. These duties include but are not limited to: preparing presentence investigation reports on felony and misdemeanor convictions, supervising adult and juvenile offenders placed on probation, supervising pretrial and appeal bond defendants, conducting child custody investigations, mediation services, and providing Child in Need of Care (CINC) services.

Considering, HB 2055, in its current form, KACSO is opposing its passage. Presently, under the Personal and Family Protection Act, any person with a license issued pursuant to or recognized under K.S.A. 2012 Supp. 75-7c01, is prohibited from possessing a firearm in buildings including, but not limited to, state and municipal office buildings, county courthouses, and in building's posted in accordance with the rules and regulations adopted by the State of Kansas Attorney General.

Should HB 2055 be adopted in its present form, the general public would be permitted to possess a firearm in all of the above referenced places, should the building fail to have adequate security measures in place to prevent such possession. At the present time, the majority of county courthouses and county courthouse facilities in the State of Kansas lack the necessary adequate security measures outlined in HB 2055. From the present date to when potentially HB 2055 would become enforced, KACSO anticipates the amount of manpower and resources required for unsecured county courthouses and county courthouse facilities to implement the necessary adequate security measures, would be astronomical and not achievable.

KACSO would like to emphasize to the committee that the majority of the population that CSOs work with on a daily basis are in fact ineligible for conceal carry permits in Kansas. However, CSOs are not strictly limited to contact with law violating offenders. On any given day, a CSO will come into contact and work with citizens going through the potential loss of a family member due to incarceration, juvenile and CINC out of home placements, divorce/mediation services, and child custody investigations. These types of services often times place a significant amount of stress and hardship on an individual and family. By allowing the general public to legally possess a firearm

The mission of the Kansas Association of Court Services Officers is to challenge, educate, support and advocate for the membership by promoting fellowship and professionalism, providing relevant training opportunities and maintaining communication with all members. The organization will further this mission by encouraging collaboration with our Court Services Officers and professional organizations and by recognizing member excellence.

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while judicial process and service is being carried out, is introducing the potential for unnecessary danger.

KACSO opposes the passage of HB 2055, and would ask for the general public to be prohibited from possessing a firearm while in any county courthouse or county courthouse facility.

Should you need additional information or have further questions, I'd be glad to present additional written testimony, or appear before the committee if requested. Thank you for accepting this testimony and for your service to the citizens of Kansas.