



Written Testimony on HB2077

Submitted To

The House Corrections and Juvenile Justice Committee

By

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On behalf of Secretary Zmuda, I appreciate the opportunity to offer this written testimony from the Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC) on the proposed changes in HB2077. We support the bill as proposed.

Over the two-year existence of the Kansas Criminal Justice Reform Commission, Secretary Zmuda and other leaders within the Kansas Department of Corrections have been actively involved in the Commission and several of the subcommittees. We have firsthand seen the valuable contributions of its membership and the substantial recommendations put forth this past December to improve the Kansas criminal justice system. And are hopeful that many will be enacted and funded by this and future legislatures.

In the course of developing those recommendations, we heard members express a need to continue this work to delve deeper into key topics and better inform more actionable and sustainable solutions. As we have reviewed the recommendations, we agree with that need, and look forward to being a part of the deeper discussion on areas of impact to the KDOC.

In closing. We appreciate that the Committee, and the Legislature as a whole, are discussing the public policies of Kansas as they relate to the criminal justice system. We will strive to be a resource to you as you continue your policy work.

Thank you