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Written Statement to the Senate Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice  
By Dick Carter, Jr.  
SB 18 – Requiring the use of body cameras by law enforcement officers  
January 29, 2015

Chairman Smith and members of the Senate Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice, the City of Overland Park provides this written statement in opposing of SB 18.

On behalf of the Overland Park Police Department, our first and highest priority is the safety and welfare of the citizens of Overland Park, and the men and women who protect everyone. The City employs 250 commissioned officers, operating from four police stations throughout the City.

Presently, the City does not utilize body cameras for law enforcement officers. The decision to study, phase in, or implement such equipment should lie with the council members who were elected to set budgets, establish taxing levels, and determine spending limits, while representing the needs of their constituents.

Should this bill become law, based on cost estimates obtained by the City to equip law enforcement officers covered by Section 1 of the bill, the most basic entry level system would exceed \$1.1 million. This estimate includes the cost for body cameras and limited cloud storage for the data. It is unknown if the amount of storage would be sufficient for maintaining three-years of data as prescribed by SB 18. Any amount of storage beyond the initial data threshold would come with additional costs, not included in the total above.

This cost estimate does not include glasses or other special mounting hardware that may be required to host the camera on each officer. It is anticipated that costs to maintain the body camera system(s) would need to be budgeted at approximately \$200,000, annually.

Additionally, the outlined costs above do not include any training for the officers, nor does it account for time that the officers or administrators who may be required to complete paperwork or respond to public requests as permitted by the act.

While we appreciate the spirit in which this bill is offered, the City would respectfully request that you not support SB 18.