



Kansas Sheriffs' Association

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Testimony to the Senate Judiciary Committee
Proponent to HB 2076
March 22, 2021

Chair Warren and Committee Members,

The Kansas Sheriff's Association submits testimony as a proponent of HB2076. The bill is identical to 2020 SB 319 which passed the Senate 39-0 last year with the exception of an amendment by the house committee defining "custodial officer of the court" as the "sheriff or the keeper of the jail in the county." The House Judiciary had set a hearing date which was later cancelled due to the COVID shutdown last year. This year the bill passed the House 122-0.

The proposed change in HB 2076 that states: "delivered to a custodial officer of the court in the county in the state in which the complaint subject to the bond was filed" replaces the currently language of: "delivered to a custodial officer of the court in any county in the state in which such person is charged." Currently, as an example, a person under bond in Ford County that is re-arrested by a bonding agent in Osage County can, and occasionally does, book the person into the Osage County jail. This causes the Ford County Sheriff to send deputies to transport the inmate back to Ford County.

The KSA believes the bonding agent who posted the bond is responsible for transporting the inmate back to the county where the inmate is charged. This expense should be the responsibility of the bonding agent who posted the bond and was able to secure the inmate being released from jail. There are expenses to county jails that include paying for two deputies to safely transport the inmate, fuel and vehicle maintenance. KSA believes this expense should be the responsibility of the bonding agent.

The Kansas Sheriff's Association is a proponent of this bill including the amendments made last year by the Senate Judiciary Committee. We thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to provide testimony on this bill.

We also request, if it is possible, to consider placing the bill on the consent calendar.

Jeff Easter, Sedgwick County Sheriff
Legislative Committee Chair