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Testimony to the Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare
Neutral Testimony on SB 489

Chairman Hilderbrand and Committee Members,

The Kansas Sheriff's Association, Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police and the Kansas Peace Officers Association is providing neutral testimony on SB 489.

This bill contains numerous changes that affect the Secretary of Health and Environment. We do not have a position on these changes.

On page 4, line 3 through line 5, the bill strikes language pertaining to law enforcement required to assist in the execution or enforcement of any order issued under this section. KSA supports the striking of this language. Law Enforcement should not be used to enforce mask mandates and vaccine mandates. We believe if any enforcement action is needed to enforce mandates; should be accomplished by a civil action not a criminal action.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sheriff Jeffrey T. Easter
Legislative Chair for the Kansas Sheriff's Association