

State of Kansas



Speaker Mike O'Neal
Kansas House of Representatives

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2534
February 9, 2012

Chairwoman Colloton and members of the Committee, I'm pleased to appear in support of HB 2534, an act relating to reporting of disappearance or death of a child; relating to interference with law enforcement; amending K.S.A 2011 Supp. 21-5904 and repealing the existing section.

In 2008, Florida 2-year-old Caylee Anthony disappeared. Anthony's Mother, Casey, failed to notify authorities of her disappearance for a month. In addition, information she later gave was misleading. Currently, our Kansas law does not view this as a crime. In response we are working to prevent this from occurring again by creating reporting standards.

HB 2534 would amend Kansas law to impose criminal penalties for failing to notify law enforcement of the death or disappearance of a child or giving false or misleading statements during the investigation of a child's death or disappearance. This bill is an essential tool for better protecting Kansas children.

House Corrections and Juvenile Justice
Committee
2012 Session
Date 2-9-12
Attachment # 1-1