



*Kansas Council on Developmental Disabilities*

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*"To ensure the opportunity to make choices regarding participation in society  
and quality of life for individuals with developmental disabilities"*

**House Corrections and Juvenile Justice**

February 17, 2012

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity of providing written testimony regarding HB 2707. I am Kerrie Bacon, the Interim Executive Director for the Kansas Council on Developmental Disabilities (KCDD). The Council is comprised of over 60% self advocates (people with developmental disabilities), parents and guardians of people with developmental disabilities. KCDD is a federally mandated and funded entity under the federal Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000. Part of our responsibility is to study and examine the Kansas system for people who have developmental disabilities and to advocate with policymakers for improvements.

The Council is opposed to HB2707. We have similar concerns to those of the Disability Rights Center; that the bill would subject 'incompetent' defendants to burdensome release standards which could result in life-long commitments and is likely unconstitutional. We request you vote "no" on this bill and do not move it forward.

Thank you for permitting me to testify.

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House Corrections and Juvenile Justice  
Committee

2012 Session

Date 2-17-12

Attachment #

7-1