



KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF COURT SERVICES OFFICERS

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Dear Chairman Owens and Committee Members:

The members of the Kansas Association of Court Services Officers (KACSO) would like to thank the committee for allowing us to present written testimony in support of SB 7 with one main amendment. SB 7 provides for all supervision of third offense DUIs to be through the Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC) parole offices. KACSO believes supervision should be based on a certified risk assessment, such as the Level of Service Inventory - Revised edition (LSI-R).

KACSO is in agreement with the KDOC recommendation in their testimony on SB 7 dated January 27, 2011, recommending supervision on 3rd offense DUIs be through Court Services or Community Corrections based on the offender's risk and needs assessment. Kansas is moving more towards implementing Evidence Based Practices (EBP) in dealing with the supervision of offenders to help lower recidivism rates. Basing the supervision on this certified tool would allow the appropriate level of supervision for all offenders and allow supervision agencies to make the best use of their already limited resources. Inappropriate supervision may increase an offender's risk to reoffend. Court Services is in the process of scheduling training and certification of officers for the implementation of the LSI-R.

KACSO also agrees with the KDOC assessment that local supervision would be appropriate over parole supervision due to the ability of local courts to hold revocation proceedings in a timelier manner. Incarceration time imposed on these third offense DUI offenders would be at local facilities and Court Services and Community Corrections officers already routinely assist the courts in implementing and monitoring house arrest and work release.

Treatment programs of offenders would not be hindered by this change in supervision entities. Court Services and Community Corrections officers throughout the state already have relationships and communication in place with local treatment agencies that would allow the continuation of effective treatment practices.

For these reasons, please consider an amendment to SB 7 allowing the supervision of 3rd offense DUIs to be based on the proven effectiveness of the LSI-R. We believe this change would be in the best interest of offenders as well as the citizens of Kansas. Thank you.

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The mission of the Kansas Association of Court Services Officers is to challenge, educate, support and advocate for the members' fellowship and professionalism, providing relevant training opportunities and maintaining communication with all members. The further this mission by encouraging collaboration with our Court Services Officers and professional organizations and by recognizing

Senate Judiciary
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Attachment 3