

Prevention and Protection Services  
915 SW Harrison St., Suite 530-E  
Topeka, KS 66612



Phone: (785) 296-4653  
Fax: (785) 368-8159  
www.dcf.ks.gov

Phyllis Gilmore, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

**January 22, 2013**

***Testimony of:***

Gina Meier-Hummel, Director of Prevention and Protection Services  
Department for Children and Families  
Topeka, Kansas

***Presented to:***

The Hon. Jeff King and Honorable Members  
*of the Kansas Senate Judiciary Committee:*

**DCF written testimony on SB 17**

**Chairman King, Vice-Chair Smith, Ranking Member Haley and Honored Members:**

I am Gina Meier-Hummel, Director of Prevention and Protection Services with the Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF). Our division is responsible for the Kansas Protection Report Center (KPRC) and Adult and Protective Services (APS). Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 17.

Senate Bill 17 amends K.S.A. Supp. 21-5512, which defines unlawful sexual relations between otherwise consenting individuals, acknowledges positions of authority and the possibility of coercion when one individual is an employee or contractor of the Kansas Department of Corrections, law enforcement officers, jails, detention centers, the Juvenile Justice Authority, court services, community correctional services and the Kansas Department for Children and Families. K.S.A. Supp. 21-5512 also includes workers, volunteers or other persons in positions of authority in family foster homes and teachers or other persons in positions of authority. Senate Bill 17 further recognizes positions of authority existing in adult care homes and expands unlawful sexual relations to include adult care home employees, contractors, and volunteers of contractors.

DCF supports SB 17 because it serves to further protect vulnerable adults. The department currently investigates allegations of adult abuse in adult care homes when the alleged perpetrator is not associated with the facility. DCF assumes that this amendment may increase the number of investigations, but any additional costs arising from this bill can be absorbed within the existing budget.

Thank you.

**Gina Meier-Hummel, Director  
DCF Prevention and Protection Services**

*Strong Families Make A Strong Kansas*

