

March 15, 2017

Re: Testimony on Senate Committee on Assessment and Taxation Bill 140

Honorable Caryn Tyson and Committee Members,

As a constituent of Kansas' district #26, I am respectfully requesting your support of SB 332. The Kansas DUI Impact Center, the only agency of its kind in our State, provides invaluable service to hundreds of Kansans victimized by impaired drivers annually. Providing the agency with a State Tax Exemption would increase its ability to serve Kansans devastated by vehicular crime committed under the influence of drugs and alcohol. It is estimated that in 2015, the agency paid approximately \$10-12,000 in retail sales tax on goods and supplies purchased for use in service to victims of impaired driving crashes. Allowing the Kansas DUI Impact Center to use their tax dollars as a resource to better serve our community, results in an investment in Kansas that far exceeds its monetary value.

I know the value of the services provided by the Kansas DUI Impact Center because I was personally affected by an impaired driving crash. The agency provided services that helped our family overcome the grief we experienced from the death of our son and brother Jeremy. The DUI Impact Center also accompanied us to all court hearings, helped us deal with the frustrations involved in dealing with the judicial system, and attended our meetings with the assistant district attorney.

I currently serve as a volunteer speaker at the DUI Victim Impact panel. I share my story with offenders in order to reduce DUI recidivism. Research proves that effective measures to reduce deaths and injuries resulting from impaired driving include community-based approaches to alcohol education and prevention of impaired driving, like the programs offered by the Kansas DUI Impact Center.

Impaired driving crime affects our entire community. Your support of the Kansas DUI Impact Center's request for State Sales Tax Exemption will provide increased resources for victims of DUI Crime throughout Kansas.

Respectfully

Rex Pawlak

Wichita, KS District #26

Useful Statistics:

- Kansas ranked 5th in the nation for highest rate of underage drinking.
- Kids and teens who get involved with alcohol at a young age are 7 times more likely to be involved in an alcohol-related crash in their lives.
- The 3 leading causes of death for 15 to 24-year-olds are automobile crashes, homicides and suicides – alcohol is a leading factor in all 3.
- On average, a drunk driver will drive 80 times under the influence before their first arrest.
- Impaired driving is the #1 most frequently committed crime in America.
- Every 51 minutes in America, someone is killed in a drunk driving crash. That equates to 27 people every day.
- Traffic accidents are the leading cause of death for American teens, and roughly 1/3 of these accidents involve alcohol or another substance
- 82% of fatal car crashes involve an impaired driver.

Useful websites:

<https://www.ksdot.org/Assets/wwwksdotorg/bureaus/burTransPlan/prodinfo/2013FactsBook/Alcohol.pdf>

http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/departments/nrd-30/ncsa/STSI/20_KS/2014/20_KS_2014.htm

<http://www.cdc.gov/alcohol/fact-sheets/underage-drinking.htm>

http://pubs.niaaa.nih.gov/publications/UnderageDrinking/Underage_Fact.pdf

<https://ncadd.org/about-addiction/driving-while-impaired-alcohol-and-drugs>

<file:///U:/AKrahl%20Documents/Tax%20Exemption%20Bill/AccidentCosts.pdf>

<https://www.dosomething.org/facts/11-facts-about-teens-and-alcohol>

<https://www.dosomething.org/us/facts/11-facts-about-driving-under-influence>

<http://visual.ly/united-states-drunk-driving-statistics>

<http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/pubs/812013.pdf>

http://www.cdc.gov/motorvehiclesafety/impaired_driving/impaired-drv_factsheet.html

http://www.rmiiia.org/auto/traffic_safety/Cost_of_crashes.asp