

To: Senate Judiciary Committee

From: Amanda L. Stanley, Legal Counsel

Date: February 1, 2017

RE: Support of SB 41
Written Testimony Only

I want to thank Chairman Wilborn and the Committee members for allowing the League of Kansas Municipalities the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 41.

SB 41 amends K.S.A. 21-5412 to make the assault of a public transportation employee a class B person misdemeanor and allow the barring of individuals convicted of assault of a public transportation employee from using public transportation. This bill also makes battery against a public transportation employee a class A misdemeanor.

By increasing the penalties for assault and battery on a public transportation employee, and by giving the court additional tools to protect public transportation employees from chronic offenders, the League believes this bill will increase the safety of municipal employees. The League supports legislation helping to increase the safety of our public transportation employees.

For these reasons, we respectfully request the Committee pass SB 41 to the full Senate.