



Kansas County & District Attorneys Association

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To: Chairman Wilborn and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee

From: Kim Parker, Prosecutor Coordinator

Kansas County and District Attorneys Association

Date: February 14th, 2018

Re: Proponent Testimony for Senate Bill 372

Good Morning Chairman Wilborn and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony for SB372. I am addressing you on behalf of the Kansas County and District Attorney's Association and the many Kansas prosecutors they represent.

This is a bill introduced to you by our association to bring clarity to the definition of the term possession. Currently the definition contains two different culpability terms both intentional and knowing. The terms intentional and knowing each have their own definitions and have different meanings. When these two defined terms are both given to jurors to apply to the same set of facts it becomes very confusing for them and difficult for jurors to determine which culpability term to apply. This clarification will help jurors and courts in the determination of cases involving unlawful possession of illegal substances or other contraband. We urge the passage of SB372.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

We urge the passage of this critical bill.

Kim T Parker

Prosecutor Coordinator

Kansas County and District Attorney's Association

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