



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: March 7th, 2018

Re: Proponent Testimony for House Bill 2458

Good Morning Chairman Wilborn and Committee Members,  
Thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony for HB2458. I am addressing you on behalf of the Kansas County and District Attorney's Association and the many Kansas prosecutors they represent. We offer our support today for this important legislation. Our elder population is one of our most vulnerable populations. As prosecutors charged with ensuring the safety of our citizens it is necessary that we attend to and protect our elder population from criminal assaults. Kansas has long demonstrated our concern for the mistreatment of elder adults with the enactment of K.S.A. 21-5417. Nevertheless, there is a huge gap in our statute as it does not specifically attend to the infliction of physical injury, unreasonable confinement or unreasonable punishment to an elder person. It is imperative that we close this gap. In addition, HB2458 also seeks to make the mistreatment of a dependent adult or mistreatment of an elder person an inherently dangerous felony. This allows the crime of felony murder to be charged if the mistreatment causes the death of the dependent adult or elder person. This legislation will serve as a strong indication of our desire to protect our most vulnerable citizens. We encourage you to pass HB2458.

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