

Written Testimony on Senate Bill 214

Senate Committee on Judiciary

Kansas Department of Health and Environment

March 19, 2019

Chairman Wilborn and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of Senate Bill 214 related to the sharing of information from the work of the Kansas State Child Death Review Board.

KDHE is a statutory member of the Child Death Review Board and has actively supported the work of the Board from its inception. For its work, the Board relies on records provided from state and local agencies to conduct reviews of the most heart-breaking events in our State, deaths to our children. **Information** from these reviews, not the specific records about individuals, is a highly valued asset that is not being sufficiently utilized to support prevention activities within our State.

Senate Bill 214 proposes to establish stringent processes that allow information to be shared to improve the health of Kansans. For years, confidentiality provisions for the Child Death Review Board have been prohibitive in addressing the needs of our public health programs. KDHE has considerable experience in managing the requirements of confidentiality while sharing information to be used for informed decisions for State and Local needs. We welcome the opportunity to work with the Attorney General and his team to establish a robust and protective process for information sharing.

Thank you for this opportunity to share our support for Senate Bill 214.