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**Testimony to the House Children and Seniors Committee  
In Support of HB2448  
March 24, 2021**

Chair Concannon and Committee Members:

You may recall our associations opposed HB2149 proposing a broader application of exemptions to the requirements of KSA 65-516. That opposition was based on the extremely broad application and extensive exceptions proposed in the bill. During the hearings on HB2149 it became very clear one of the concerns driving the bill was situations in foster homes where there had been a period of time with a juvenile in the home who had juvenile adjudications for crimes that were prohibitive for residence in the home with foster children as an adult but not as a child. This resulted in those individuals having to leave their homes on their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday even when there was significant history of no problems in the home. We are confident you found that as disturbing as we did and it did not make sense given the history of the individual residing in the home prior to their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.

HB2448 addresses that issue in a narrow manner which appears to us to be reasonable and in most cases sustaining a positive residential environment for these young people.

We support the narrow exceptions proposed on page 3, lines 3-12 for these limited situations.

We do remain concerned if DCF plans on this decision of when “no safety concerns” exist to be made by a single person. We believe a review of the case and circumstance by more than one person should be required.

We support the concept of this bill and believe the narrow application and scope of the exception is appropriate.

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