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**Testimony to the House Judiciary Committee
In Support of SB300
March 1, 2022**

Chairman Patton and Committee Members:

Our associations support SB300.

Identity theft is a growing criminal activity across the country. According to data from the Federal Trade Commission in 2020 Kansas ranked as the highest state in the US for identity thefts per capita with 1483 reports per 100,000 population. During that year over 43,000 identity theft cases in Kansas was identified through FTC sources.¹ These crimes are often conducted by criminal organizations.

In addition, the 2020 FTC statistics show four Kansas metropolitan statistical areas (MSA) as the top four MSA areas for identity theft per capita in the US. Those are Topeka, Lawrence, Wichita, and Manhattan.²

Identity theft appears to be a crime that fits the intent of the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization (RICO) Act. We believe including this crime in the RICO laws can serve to address this crime costing Kansans millions of dollars every year.

We urge you to pass SB300 favorably.

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¹ <https://www.consumeraffairs.com/finance/identity-theft-statistics.html>

² Same