

## "BAIL AGENTS ASSURE JUSTICE"

## **Kansas Bail Agents Association**

2947 N. Athenian Ave., Wichita, Kansas 67204

## **Testimony In Support of House Bill 2076**

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Alan Stimatze KS West Liaison Director Syracuse, Kansas March 22, 2021

My name is Shane Rolf. I am the Executive Vice President of the Kansas Bail Agents Association. I am providing this testimony on behalf of the KBAA in Support of House Bill 2076.

Our understanding is that the bill is intended to primarily address a scenario wherein a surety attempts to a formal bond surrender of a defendant it has in custody to a county other than the jurisdiction where the defendant is actually being prosecuted.

Currently, the statute allows a bond surrender to be done "in any county in the state." This creates headaches when a surety attempts to surrender someone in a jail other than where he is being actively prosecuted. This is particularly problematic when the attempted surrender takes place and no active warrant exists for the defendant. Local law enforcement often has no knowledge of the defendant and the underlying case and doesn't feel that they have any basis to detain the defendant, despite the language of the statute. Obviously, when there is an active warrant, local police then would have a basis to detain the arrestee regardless of whether the bonding company is attempting to surrender the bond.

The KBAA has no problem with requiring bondsmen to transport a defendant they have arrested to the appropriate jail wherein the underlying case is taking place and we support language to that effect.

While there are certain outlier scenarios where this restriction could be a minor problem, we think that these scenarios are even rarer than the situation this change to the statute hopes to eliminate. So, on balance, we do support the statutory change requested by the Sheriff's Association and we do not foresee and real problem with this going forward.

Shane Rolf Executive Vice President Kansas Bail Agents Association