

700 SW Jackson Street
Suite 501
Topeka, KS 66603-3757



Phone: (785) 296-0923
Fax: (785) 296-0927
<http://www.sentencing.ks.gov>

Honorable Evelyn Z. Wilson, Chair
Honorable W. Lee Fowler, Vice Chair
Scott M. Schultz, Executive Director

Sam Brownback, Governor

HOUSE CORRECTIONS AND JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMITTEE
Representative Russ Jennings, Chairman

KANSAS SENTENCING COMMISSION
Scott M. Schultz, Executive Director
January 24, 2017

Proponent Testimony – HB 2084

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in favor of this legislation on behalf of the Kansas Sentencing Commission (KSSC). This bill is a product of nine proposals the 17-member Commission considered and now recommends to you for your support this session. It is the statutory charge of the Commission to recommend solutions to maintain the sentencing guidelines and further public safety by supporting the incarceration of the most violent offenders in the state's criminal justice system.

To that end, this bill would amend the Commission's enabling statute in K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 74-9101 by adding subsection (b)(23), which establishes that unless otherwise prohibited by law, all state agencies shall provide any data or information requested by the Commission to carry out its duties and functions.

The Commission from time to time enters into agreements with other state agencies to compile and analyze data to assist in carrying out its mission. These are normally completed by Memorandum of Agreements. Codifying the ability of the KSSC to request data from other state agencies would realize efficiencies in data sharing and further promote more comprehensive available data for the KSSC to provide to its stakeholders, including the Legislature.

I appreciate your time and attention to the Kansas Sentencing Commission testimony, ask for your support of the legislation, and would be happy to answer questions. Thank you.