

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE CORRECTIONS AND JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pat Colloton at 1:30 p.m. on January 25, 2011 in Room 144-S of the Capitol.

All members were present

Committee staff present:

Sean Ostrow, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Jason Thompson, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Lauren Douglass, Legislative Research
Robert Allison-Gallimore, Legislative Research
Jackie Lunn, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Bob Keller, Captain, Johnson County Sheriff's Office
Jeremiah Morris, Johnson County Criminalistics Lab
Kyle Smith, Kansas Peace officers' Association
Mike Jennings, Assistant District Attorney, Sedgwick Co.
Jim Hill, Chief of Police, Salina
Tamara Gutierrez, Private Citizen
Adley Shallis, Private Citizen
Sarah Hansen, Kansas Association of Addiction Professionals
Sarah Fertig, Executive Director, Kansas Sentencing Commission

Others attending:

See attached.

Chairperson Colloton called the meeting to order and opened the floor for consideration of **HB 2001-Local law enforcement training reimbursement fund; expenditures approved by commission on peace officers' standards and training.** She called on Sean Ostrow to explain the bill to the Committee. **Representative Roth moved HB 2001 out favorable for passage. Representative Brookens seconded. Motion carried.**

Next, Chairperson Colloton introduced Sarah Fertig, the newly appointed Executive Director of the Kansas Sentencing Commission.

Chairperson Colloton then opened the hearing on **HB 2049-Controlled substances**, and called on Sean Ostrow, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, to explain the bill. Upon the conclusion of the Revisor's explanation of the bill, Chairperson Colloton introduced the following to give their testimony as proponents of the bill:

- Captain Bob Keller from the Johnson County Sheriff's Office. Captain Keller presented written copy of his testimony, which can be found in its entirety in the offices of Legislative Administrative Services. (Attachment 1)
- Jeremiah Morris, Johnson County Criminalistics Lab. Mr. Morris presented written copy of his testimony, which can be found in its entirety in the offices of Legislative Administrative Services. (Attachment 2)
- Kyle Smith, Kansas Peace Officers Association. Mr. Smith presented written copy of his testimony, which can be found in its entirety in the offices of Legislative Administrative Services. (Attachment 3)
- Mike Jennings, Assistant District Attorney, Sedgwick County. Mr. Jennings presented written copy of his testimony, which can be found in its entirety in the offices of Legislative Administrative Services. (Attachment 4)
- Jim Hill, Chief of Police, Salina, Kansas. Chief Hill presented written copy of his testimony, which can be found in its entirety in the offices of Legislative Administrative Services. (Attachment 5)

CONTINUATION SHEET

The minutes of the Corrections and Juvenile Justice Committee at 1:30 p.m. on January 25, 2011, in Room 144-S of the Capitol.

- Tamara Gutierrez, Private Citizen. Ms. Guterrez presented written copy of her testimony, which can be found in its entirety in the offices of Legislative Administrative Services. (Attachment 6)
- Adley Shallis, Private Citizen. Ms. Shallis did not present a written copy of her testimony.
- Deb Billingsly, Board of Pharmacy, presented "written only" proponent testimony, which can be found in its entirety in the offices of Legislative Administrative Services. (Attachment 7)

Sarah Hansen, Kansas Association of Addiction Professionals testified as a "neutral party". She presented written testimony, which can be found in its entirety in the offices of Legislative Administrative Services. (Attachment 8)

A question and answer session followed with all who testified on the bill.

With no others to speak or testify to the bill, Chairperson Colloton closed the hearing on **HB 2049**.

Chairperson Colloton adjourned the meeting at 2:40 pm with the next meeting scheduled for January 26, 2011 at 1:30 pm in room 144-S.

CORRECTIONS & JUVENILE JUSTICE GUEST LIST

DATE: 1-25-11

NAME	REPRESENTING
N. Zogelman	Polsinelli
Fabrizio Nagelsberg	KC DAA
Art Casper	GBA
Dr T Rohrich	SG Co RASC
Stu Hagg	KBT
Jim Schieferecke	KBI
Dwain Walz	KBI
Valerie Lamb	JCEL
Jeremiah G. Mair	JCEL
Jim Kofa	JCEL
Bernd Koops	Acia Lm Firm
Deb Billingsley	KBOP
MIKE LARSEN	KS Pharmacist Assoc
Amy Taylor	Saline County Attorney
E. Kump	KACP/KSA/KPOA
Susan Zelenski	J & J
Kyle Smith	KPOA

FRANK P. DENNING
SHERIFF

913-791-5805



KEVIN D. CAVANAUGH
UNDERSHERIFF

913-715-5500

DUTY HONOR SERVICE

125 N. CHERRY
OLATHE, KANSAS 66061
WWW.JOCOSHERIFF.ORG

Date: January 25, 2011

To: Chairperson Colloton, Vice Chairperson Kinzer, and distinguished members of the Corrections and Juvenile Justice Committee:

Chairperson Colloton,

My name is Bob Keller, and I'm a Captain with the Johnson County Sheriff's Office. I appear today in support of HB 2049 which seeks to add synthetic cannabinoids to the list of Schedule I controlled substances.

In 2010 the Kansas Legislature recognized the need to add three different synthetic cannabinoids: HU-210, JWH-018 and JWH-073 to the drug schedule due to the potential for abuse and the unknown health consequences from ingesting these compounds. The analog statute is insufficient to prosecute those possessing or manufacturing different versions of synthetic cannabinoids because these compounds can be created in a variety of chemical combinations.

HB 2049 will also eliminate the need to annually update the drug schedule as new synthetic cannabinoids are manufactured using the same chemical groups. HB 2049 is a proactive approach to regulate new drug compounds created to take the place of tetrahydrocannabinol and prevent them from reaching the market place as unscheduled drugs.

HB 2049 will not prevent legitimate academic or medical research from being conducted using the chemicals listed in the proposed schedule. HB 2049 will deter individuals from creating and distributing synthetic cannabinoids in Kansas when they realize these compounds are scheduled drugs and those dealing in them face criminal prosecution.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Captain Bob Keller
Johnson County Sheriff's Office

House Corrections and Juvenile Justice
Committee
2011 Session
Date 1-25-11
Attachment # 1

FRANK P. DENNING
SHERIFF

913-791-5805

KEVIN D. CAVANAUGH
UNDERSHERIFF

913-715-5500



GARY R. HOWELL
LABORATORY DIRECTOR

913-826-3209

DUTY HONOR SERVICE

CRIMINALISTICS LABORATORY
6000 LAMAR
MISSION, KANSAS 66202
WWW.JOCOSHERIFF.ORG

Date: January 25, 2011

To: Chairperson Colloton, Vice-Chairperson Kinzer, and distinguished members of the Corrections and Juvenile Justice Committee

My name is Jeremiah Morris and I am a Senior Forensic Scientist with the Johnson County Sheriff's Office Criminalistics Laboratory. I offer testimony today in support of the House Bill 2049 which seeks to amend K.S.A 65-4105 to add several general classes of synthetic cannabinoids to the list of Schedule I controlled substances.

Marijuana and its active component tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) are both listed as schedule I controlled substances federally and in the State of Kansas. In 2010, three synthetic cannabinoids – HU-210, JWH-018, and JWH-073 – were added to the Kansas statutes as schedule I controlled substances. These compounds were commercially available in herbal incense products and were reportedly several times more potent than THC. Since the addition of these compounds to the statutes, numerous additional synthetic cannabinoids have appeared in herbal incense products. The transition from JWH-018 and JWH-073 to these other compounds was meant to avoid criminal prosecution and also to distribute highly potent synthetic cannabinoids, sometimes more potent than the original products.

The presence of synthetic cannabinoids in herbal smoking blends is extremely troubling for a number of reasons. First, despite the lack of thorough safety and toxicological studies on these compounds, products containing these compounds have been linked to a number of health concerns in Kansas and across the country. Hospitalizations, emergency room visits, and calls to poison control centers have increased everywhere these products are sold. They produce extreme tachycardia, extreme paranoia, hallucinations, and loss of consciousness, to name a few. Sadly, a number of deaths have been reported across the country, and even in Kansas, due to ingestion of these compounds. Second, at least two different publications have made a link between synthetic cannabinoids and the onset of schizophrenia in vulnerable individuals. Third, one published study, and numerous personal stories, prove these compounds, when abused, create dependency.

House Bill 2049 takes an unprecedented approach to controlling these synthetic cannabinoids. Rather than list compounds individually, this bill proposes controlling these compounds using a general chemical class approach. The benefit of this approach is hundreds of synthetic cannabinoids will be controlled immediately. Manufacturers of these herbal incense blends understand the law and know vast numbers of compounds are available to them. The past year has demonstrated their determination to stay several steps ahead of the law by transitioning away from scheduled compounds to uncontrolled compounds. Nearly twenty non-controlled compounds have been detected in these products. The general chemical class approach will control every single

House Corrections and Juvenile Justice
Committee

2011 Session

Date 1-25-11

Attachment # 2-1

FRANK P. DENNING
SHERIFF

913-791-5805



GARY R. HOWELL
LABORATORY DIRECTOR

913-826-3209

KEVIN D. CAVANAUGH
UNDERSHERIFF

913-715-5500

DUTY HONOR SERVICE

CRIMINALISTICS LABORATORY
6000 LAMAR
MISSION, KANSAS 66202
WWW.JOCOSHERIFF.ORG

one of these twenty compounds in addition to over a hundred or more additional compounds with the potential for abuse but not yet included in these herbal incense products. The general chemical class approach has been used for years in the United Kingdom and is being considered by several States for synthetic cannabinoids. Forensic laboratories in Kansas agree that this is the best and most effective means of controlling synthetic cannabinoids.

In summary, the Johnson County Sheriff's Office Criminalistics Laboratory supports House Bill 2049 and the amendment to K.S.A 65-4105 to add several general classes of synthetic cannabinoids to the list of Schedule I controlled substances. This bill will prohibit illicit possession and abuse of these synthetic cannabinoids but not restrict legitimate research, either.

Respectfully,
Jeremiah Morris
Senior Forensic Scientist, Johnson County, KS Sheriff's Office

Kansas Peace Officers' Association



INCORPORATED

TELEPHONE 316-722-8433 · FAX 316-722-1988

www.kpoa.org kpoa@kpoa.org

P.O. Box 2592 · WICHITA, KANSAS 67201

House Corrections and Juvenile Justice Committee

Testimony of Kyle Smith

In Support of HB 2049

January 25, 2011

Chairman Colloton and Members of the Committee,

As chairman of the Kansas Peace Officers Association Legislative Committee, I appear today in support of HB 2049. This bill is an attempt to get ahead of the chemists and profiteers who are skirting the controlled substances act and endangering out children.

You will remember our successful efforts last year to add several compounds of synthetic cannabinoids last year to the controlled substances act, generally referred to as "K2". As was pointed out then, criminal statutes are strictly construed against the state and in favor of a defendant. A small structural change in a chemical compound normally changes its scientific name, and so it is no longer listed on the controlled substances schedules. There is a continuous 'cat and mouse' game where clandestine chemists create slightly different versions of a controlled substance (in this case 'cannabinoids') and then market the new compound to the public, followed by abuses, injury and occasionally death, which prompts law enforcement to request the new substance be added to the drug schedules.

HB 2049 is a slightly more proactive effort to simply ban all chemical compounds which contain the basic psychoactive compound that are shared by all 'cannabinoids'. By scheduling this 'family' of drugs, we can control any future compounds that are based on this essential element shared by these new designer drugs. We have met with the Board of Pharmacy, and they advise that there are no legitimate medicines using the cannabinoid compound.

The KPOA appreciates your consideration and the opportunity to discuss this matter. I would be happy to answer any questions.

House Corrections and Juvenile Justice
Committee

2011 Session

Date 1-25-11

Attachment # 3



Kansas County & District Attorneys Association

1200 SW 10th Avenue
Topeka, KS 66604
(785) 232-5822 Fax: (785) 234-2433
www.kcdaa.org

TO: Pat Colloton, Chair, House Standing Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice

RE: H.B. 2049

Date: January 25, 2010

CONFeree: Mike Jennings, Assistant District Attorney, Wichita/Sedgwick County.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 2049. I am appearing on behalf of the Kansas County and District Attorneys Association. We view this bill as a good bill.

It prohibits synthetic cannabinoids by descriptive categories (e.g., benzoylindoles in subparagraph 8 of 65-4105(h) of the bill). The description-based prohibitions will allow this law to be enforced against synthetic cannabinoids which are currently available on the street, as well as those which have not yet been developed if they use the prohibited ring in their molecular structure. Because synthetic cannabinoids are being developed and marketed aggressively today, the bill's descriptive prohibitions will remain an effective measure over time.

This bill is based on a description-based statute in the United Kingdom which has proved effective against synthetic cannabinoids.

House Corrections and Juvenile Justice
Committee

2011 Session

Date 1-25-11

Attachment # 4



OFFICERS

Jim Daily
President
Newton Police Dept.

Mike Keller
Vice President
Andover Police Dept.

Sean Wallace
Sergeant at Arms
Arkansas City Police Dept.

Bob Sage
Treasurer
Rose Hill Police Dept.

Dan Shanks
Recording Secretary
Oakley Police Dept.

James Hill
SACOP Representative
Salina Police Dept.

Todd Ackerman
Immediate Past President
Marysville Police Dept.

Doyle King
Executive Director
KACP

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Ralph Oliver
Region I
KU Public Safety Dept.

Sam Budreau
Region II
Chanute Police Dept.

Ronnie Grice
Region III
KSU Public Safety Dept.

John Daily
Region IV
Bel Aire Police Dept.

James Braun
Region V
Hays Police Dept.

Vernon Ralston
Region VI
St. John Police Dept.

Testimony of Chief James D. Hill, City of Salina Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police Representative Corrections and Juvenile Justice Committee January 25, 2011, Room 144-S

House Corrections and Juvenile Justice
Committee

2011 Session

Date 1-25-11

Attachment # 5-1

Testimony of Chief James D. Hill, City of Salina
Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police Representative
Corrections and Juvenile Justice Committee
January 25, 2011, Room 144-S

Dangerous, Unregulated Drugs Sold as Potpourri and Bath Salts

Law enforcement and medical personnel in Salina have experienced an alarming number of emergency calls to assist citizens whom, after ingesting herbal blends of synthetically altered potpourri and/or bath salt compounds, require immediate medical attention.

The recent appearance of synthetically altered potpourri and bath salts is not limited to Salina; this relatively new drug trend has also been noted by other Kansas law enforcement agencies across the state. It is unclear as to whether the phenomenon of synthetic cannabinoids and bath salts is a passing fancy or a long-term substance abuse trend that will remain in vogue. What is clear is that these mind altering "legal, designer drugs" have proven to be very profitable for the people manufacturing and selling them and devastating to the people who choose to ingest them.

Dried plant materials treated with synthetic cannabinoids are commonly sold under the names of K2 through K7 or "herbal potpourri." The substances, created in warehouse type environments by makeshift manufacturers, consist of mixing common potpourri leaves with chemicals such as ethyl alcohol or acetone, combined with synthetic compounds such as JWH-250, among others, which skirt existing legal controls in Kansas.

Depending on the mixture, the strength of these clandestine drugs range from weak to an extremely high potency. The physical effects on persons ingesting the compounds vary drastically.

Synthetic drug use in Salina and elsewhere across Kansas has resulted in reports of individuals experiencing severe adverse effects, to include agitation (which can be severe and require sedation), anxiety, elevated blood pressure, intense hallucinations, numbness, pallor, tachycardia, tingling, vomiting and, in some cases, tremors and seizures.

Bath salts sold by retailers in Salina, labeled as "Ivory Wave" or "Vanilla Sky," are not bath salts at all. Chemicals found in the "salts" may include 3,4-Methylenedioxypyrovalerone (MDPV), 3,4-Methylenedioxymethcathinone (Methylone), and 4-Methylmethcathinone (Mephedrone), among others. These chemicals are very similar to methamphetamine, and have no legitimate use other than to provide a high for the user.

Herbal potpourri is smoked from pipes commonly used to smoke marijuana. "Bath salts" are ingested by placing the salt compounds directly in the mouth, smoking in glass "rose bud" type methamphetamine pipes, snorting or injecting the powder substance, or mixing the compounds in drinks. It is not uncommon for individuals to smoke potpourri and also ingest bath salts.

MDPV was directly linked to the death of a young male in St. Joseph, Missouri last year. We are currently awaiting toxicology results to determine if the December 20, 2010 death of Elijah Taylor, a 21-year-old University of Kansas student home on Christmas break, involved synthetically altered bath salts and/or potpourri. A friend who was with the decedent until just prior to his death told Salina police investigators that the decedent became very high after smoking herbal blend potpourri and "lost his mind." He was struck and killed after running in front of a vehicle traveling southbound on I-135. He was found to be in possession of a container of bath salts, which he had also reportedly ingested prior to his death.

Manufacturers and distributors market these dangerous products as potpourri, herbal blends and bath salts and label them "not for human consumption" to evade law enforcement scrutiny. In reality, this fraudulent labeling is a complete sham. These products are mind altering drugs,

produced, marketed and purchased for human consumption in order that the consumer may experience a legal high. The Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police believes that immediate steps must be taken to regulate the manufacture, distribution, sale, use and possession of so called "potpourri" and "bath salt" compounds. Current Kansas law only outlaws the compounds known as JWH-018, JWH-073, HU-210 and the stimulants BZP and TFMPP. The law doesn't address equally dangerous and currently legal compounds, such as JWH-007; JWH-015; JWH-019; JWH-098; JWH-133; JWH-164; JWH-200; JWH-250; MDPV and other stimulants; and the list goes on and on.

The difficulty facing the Kansas legislature and all governing bodies in addressing these substances rests with the very nature of the compounds. There are reportedly over a hundred compounds with cannabinoid receptor activity, and without comprehensive legislation, it can be assumed that new substances from different chemical groups will continue to appear on the drug scene as quickly as others are banned.

This is precisely what I-135/I-70 Drug Task Force Commander, Lt. Jim Norton, learned from a major Salina manufacturer and distributor of these currently legal drugs, when he told the lieutenant that if the compound he is currently using, JWH-250, is banned, he would just switch and treat his dried plant materials with another, legal compound. This individual, along with similarly situated individuals in Kansas and across the country, have reaped enormous profits selling chemically altered potpourri, and rest assured that they will attempt to exploit any and all loopholes in the law to ensure that the cash keeps flowing.

Very little is known about the pharmacology, toxicology, and safety profile of these compounds in humans. There appear to be significant health and public safety risks involved in ingesting these compounds, which have the potential to be extremely harmful due to their methods of manufacture and high pharmacological potency.

For example, following a recent Salina medical emergency, one subject reported that he placed potpourri, labeled "Blackberry Truffle, in a pipe and took "two hits off of it." He referred to the experience as "completely hallucinating, seeing all kinds of stuff, and talking to God and the devil." He became violent, and reported the next thing he remembered was waking up in the E.R.

During a recent discussion with the Co-Director of Salina Regional Health Center's Emergency Department, police were informed that the hospital's ER began seeing an increase in medical emergencies involving patients who had smoked potpourri starting in September of 2010. Although the medical director said that the number of medical emergencies has somewhat tapered off in the past two or three weeks, he estimated that the ER had been treating approximately one case every other day. The most serious patient seen was a teenage boy brought in by ambulance from rural Saline County, who was found to be unresponsive and in respiratory distress. He was placed on a respirator and spent 10 days in the Intensive Care Unit. The ER physician advised that he was very concerned that the boy may not survive, and that he would have died without immediate medical care. One of the boy's friends admitted that they had smoked "herbal potpourri" purchased in Salina prior to the medical emergency.

These synthetic, designer drugs present a clear and present danger to the health, safety and welfare of every Kansan and every community, urban or rural, in our great state. On behalf of the Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police, I urge this committee and the Kansas legislature to close the legal loopholes that allow these dangerous drugs to be sold to our citizens.



Administrative
(785) 826-7210

CITY OF SALINA

DEPARTMENT OF

POLICE

255 NORTH TENTH STREET
SALINA, KANSAS 67401

Fax
(785) 826-6515



**RECENT MEDICAL EMERGENCIES AND OTHER NOTABLE EVENTS
REPORTEDLY INVOLVING SYNTHETIC DRUGS
SOLD AS POTPOURRI AND BATH SALTS**

11-15-2010:

A 61-year-old school employee called the I-135/I-70 Drug Task Force (DTF) after ingesting a potpourri mixture. The caller stated that she was having trouble sleeping so she purchased a baggie of potpourri from The Grind. She stated that The Grind employee showed her how to smoke the "herbal potpourri." The caller stated that she smoked the potpourri and became "very high and aroused." The caller stated that the substance basically made her paralyzed and she was unable to move or even stand.

12-14-2010:

SFD medics and SPD were sent to a medical emergency and disturbance at a residence. Upon arrival, they found a large male subject who was having seizures. Police learned that "Jerry" had ingested a pipe full of "Strawberry Cheesecake Potpourri," also known as "THE WORM." A witness stated that he and Jerry had smoked the potpourri for the first time. The witness described the experience as losing focus and getting a numb brain and pressure in his head. The witness stated that Jerry then began having seizures. The witness stated that Jerry had about 12 seizures. Jerry was transported to the hospital, and after being treated, had no memory of the event.

12-19-2010:

SFD and SPD were sent to a residence for a medical emergency. A male subject was found in respiratory distress. He stated that he hallucinated badly and stated that he had spoken to God and the devil and was in severe pain from smoking potpourri. He was treated at the hospital and later released.

12-20-2010:

Elijah Taylor was struck by a vehicle and killed on I-135. Investigators interviewed the witness who was with Taylor just prior to his death. The witness stated that just prior to leaving a friend's house in the county, he and Taylor smoked a full bowl of "herbal blend potpourri." The witness stated that Taylor became "very high" and the witness then drove Taylor away from the party. The witness stated that Taylor "lost his mind" and began crying, kicking the interior of the vehicle and punching the witness.

He stopped the vehicle, and Taylor subsequently ran in front of a southbound vehicle on I-135, was struck and died of his injuries. Taylor was found in possession of a container of "bath salts." Toxicology is pending on this case.

12-22-2010:

An undercover officer purchased five (5) different blends of potpourri from The Grind, to include one bag of "The Worm." As she was leaving, she was stopped by the business owner who warned her to be careful using "The Worm" as it "is very potent and whoever used it would need to know where they were, because they would be staying there." These samples were sent to the KBI lab for analysis.

12-23-2010:

A female called the Drug Task Force and wished to talk to an investigator about her friends smoking and swallowing "bath salts." The female stated that she has used both herbal potpourri and "bath salts" and found them to be very different. The female was interviewed at her residence. She advised that the potpourri purchased from The Grind and advised that it will "make you high and is somewhat like marijuana." She advised that the bath salts can be purchased both from The Grind or Pack Rat Smokes.

The female stated that several of her female friends are now addicted to the bath salts. She described the salts as causing nervousness, insane moments, where you will run around without any reason or knowledge of doing so. She advised that she has ran up and down the street after getting high on the salts and stated that she believed that Elijah Taylor "was probably high on the bath salts when he died." The female's friends were not willing to talk with us about their bath salts habits. The female did describe the "bath salts" as being much more potent than ecstasy.

12-29-2010:

On 12-29-2010, a concerned mother from Ellsworth, Kansas called the DTF and stated that her 16-year-old son and his friends has been smoking "this potpourri drug" and obtaining it from The Grind in Salina. She stated that she had searched her son's room and found items that she wished to turn over to the DTF. She turned over eight empty packets of different "herbal potpourri blends" that her son had obtained from The Grind. She also turned over a small clear zip lock baggie of white powder, which is believed to be "bath salts."

The mother stated that she had to take her son to the Ellsworth ER because he was very sick and she believes that his sickness is a direct result of either smoking the potpourri and/or ingesting the bath salts.

She contacted the DTF on 1-4-2011 and advised that their family doctor had re-examined her son and determined that her son is addicted to the potpourri blends and she has arranged drug treatment for him.

1-4-2011:

A citizen reported to the police that a juvenile male and many other kids in Bennington are using potpourri. The caller described "rampant use of potpourri by kids in Bennington." The caller also advised that the family of the juvenile had entered him into drug treatment as a result of his potpourri use and the effects that the drug has had on him.

1-9-2011:

SFD and SPD were dispatched to the Central Mall due to a 15-year-old female who required medical attention after ingesting bath salts. The female admitted to smoking a small amount of bath salts from a foil pipe and having breathing and mental issues from the drug. She was sent to the hospital for treatment.

While the officer was at the ER taking this call, the investigating officer overheard medical staff describing another female who had significant medical problems as the result of "shooting up" bath salts.

1-11-2011:

A 25-year-old male was transported to the SRHC ER for respiratory distress and other medical issues. The male admitted to the treating ER nurse that he had consumed "herbal Potpourri" that he had purchased at The Grind. The male very aggressive behavior and was restrained and given a sedative drug to calm him down. His heart rate was very elevated and he required immediate medical attention.

After calming down, restraints were removed from the subject, who became agitated again and physically assaulted the nurse, striking the nurse in the face multiple times. Law enforcement officers had to restrain the man.

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 9 NOVEMBER 2010

THUNDER ROADS

MAGAZINE®

KANSAS®

FREE
TAKE
ONE

Happy Thanksgiving
VETERANS DAY
NOVEMBER 11TH 2010

US NAVY TRIBUTE BIKE
OWNER Larry Czarnowski
US NAVY RETIRED

www.ThunderRoadsKansas.com

AMERICA'S FASTEST GROWING BIKER PUBLICATION

FROM A SORTED PAST

Story courtesy of Wade Barnett



**Salina native
Eric Srack
has become
a successful
entrepreneur in his
local area.**

With the help of his wife Karlana, Eric started Underground Inc. in 1998 as a custom car shop in Salina, from that, the Underground Inc. company has provided many services such as car audio, a custom chopper shop, a custom car shop, a car lot, even selling pool tables... and the current business 'the Grind', a Java Lounge and home of Underground Speed and Sound. Currently the Underground Inc. building houses a car audio shop, the coffee shop and the newest member of the Underground Inc. family, Underground Herbal Potpourri.

A year ago Eric started the Underground Herbal Potpourri project out of a wanting to save his children from the "civil machine" that is the court system. After two of Eric and Karlana's eight children were picked up on possession charges for marijuana, Eric decided to find a safe, legal alternative to the illegal drug. Eric's intent is to provide a safe, legal alternative to marijuana that not only his boys and their friends could use, but that would help get illegal marijuana sales to slow down and stop people from being arrested and again being processed by the machine that is the judicial system. People are going to stop buying marijuana if there is a safe, legal alternative to the drug. This allows probationers, corrections members and parolees that "can't stop smoking pot"

a way to function within the bounds of the judicial system, to get out of the machine's grasp, instead of failing urine tests and having their time extended or being thrown in jail to be victimized by the system further...

and a large portion of their time is being

***"How can a person be
a productive member of
society when most of their
money is going to fines
and court costs..."***

consumed by court dates, probation/correction meetings, sometimes useless AA/NA meetings and/or community service...? Plus, a TON of people are looking for jobs to support themselves and a family in this poor economy... the stress of it all leads many to a "relaxing" pastime with my product, (or something illegal). At least now there is a REAL choice.

The fact is you can't REALLY get yourself together without a little money and some time spent concentrating on your life..." says Eric. That is the focus of Underground Potpourri, to slow the churning of people through the judicial machine and offer people a legal choice. To allow people to be productive members of society and possibly enjoy their lives again.

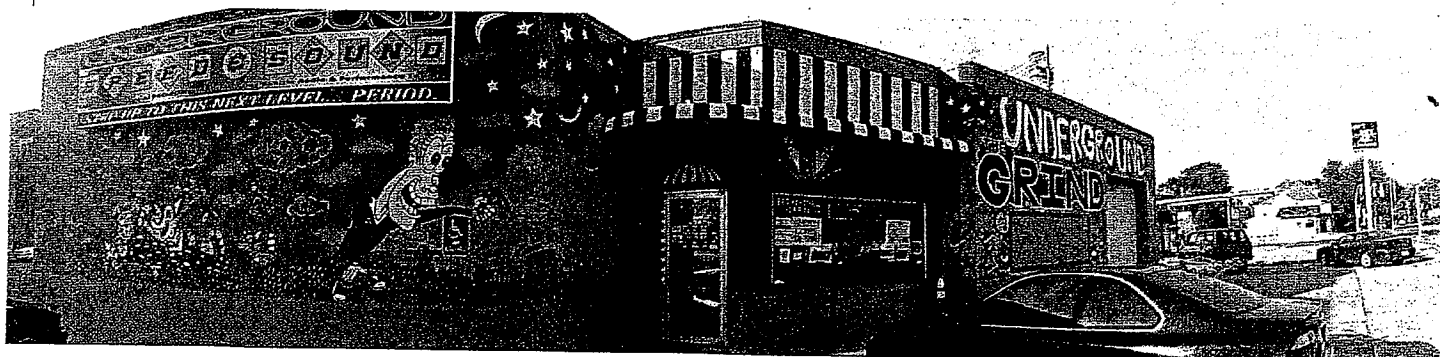
This became Eric's new mission. After extensive research via the internet and tapping in to the current synthetic subculture that has sprung up around synthetic marijuana alternatives, Eric took on the daunting task of finding a substance that would produce the same mind altering effects of marijuana, while still maintaining a legal stance that would allow his product to avoid the scrutiny

of law enforcement. This was achieved by creating his own special "blend" of medicinal herbs and synthetics.

Six months ago Summer Skyy was born, Eric's first successful attempt at a viable product that could be marketed. This was accomplished by utilizing a mixture of 14 all natural herbs and 7 flowers that have been known to provide both mind altering effects and medicinal values, this mixture is the base of all of Eric's potpourri products. The thing that makes Eric's potpourri different from all of the other current synthetic products on the market is his legal patent-pending process that is used to provide additional potency and effects to the different blends of potpourri. The biggest challenge, I was told, of making Underground Potpourri was creating a product that had a lasting effect, commonly referred to as "legs" by recreational users. Eric wanted to create something that would provide a mind altering experience while allowing the effects to last long enough for the user to recognize that they got their money's worth. Sometimes upwards of three to five hours with the right blend. Now there are many different blends of potpourri with different strengths and effects, giving consumers a choice of what "high" they are looking for, not to mention the different complex flavors supplied by each of the different blends.

The process is quite time consuming and extensive as the herbs and flowers have to be meticulously sorted and blended to make the special base in the appropriate percentages. Additional steps are utilized to flavor the potpourri and increase potency. The mixtures then have to be dried so that they can be enjoyed.

As with marijuana there is always a stigma that is attached to any product that is "not the norm". Eric is well aware of this stigma, as Underground Potpourri has been "checked" several times by law enforcement... by way of multiple traffic stops, including K-9 units being utilized and requests from law enforcement





to perform searches of his personal vehicles and that of his employees...

"We are not doing anything wrong, so I am not going to give up one of the LAST actual rights that I have as a citizen when it comes to being stopped by law enforcement. I have the right to keep them out of my car and personal stuff. There is nothing illegal in the car and I am NOT going to allow it to be searched. That is still my right

and is a GREAT matter of point to me." Eric said.

This stigma has also affected The Grind's food and coffee business. Some customers no longer come in to the establishment on their lunch

breaks from the city/county building across the street, for fear of other members of the community seeing them. This has not slowed business though. A very diverse group of clientele are now frequenting The Grind Java Lounge, and Eric is currently distributing the Underground Potpourri all over the nation.

Underground Potpourri has been said to have recently received an honorable mention from a "high**NAMELESS**times" magazine in the synthetics category. This was not the original plan, according to Eric, but is very notable for the product and speaks

volumes to the quality of Underground's Potpourri. Underground Herbal Potpourri was also featured on KWCH Channel 12 News (along with five other news channels). That coverage has really helped get the word out that there IS a product on the market that is legal and available to people that want to enhance their minds while still being free of the legal ramifications that marijuana has

associated with. It's a HUGE money making business for lawman. They get federal and state funding and grants for arresting people, locking them up, housing them, taking their property, and shuffling them

through what seems to be an endless system. Plus, everyone from the attorney's to the insurance companies... all the way down the line to the counselors have job security... everyone gets paid by somebody. By now we have a hundreds of thousands of people who have lost their freedom, their jobs, their property, their families and their "life" over smoking a little weed and getting caught. It's a shame... it's ridiculous... and it's JUST not worth it. I'd sure like to put an end to some of that..."

The success of Underground Potpourri has allowed Eric to not only provide peace of mind for himself and

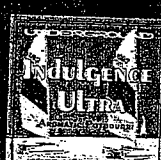
family, but has also allowed him to "give back" to his fellow man. Eric has had many members of the homeless community that had frequented his establishment over the years simply looking for a cup of coffee or a place to hangout. As well as a hand out, Eric has given some members of the community a leg up, even if it has meant something as simple as having the floors swept to provide some extra pocket money or having new artwork graffiti'd on the building. "Society has kicked these people out and wrote them off, I am giving them the opportunity to feel like normal people again, to have work and have a little cash in their pockets for necessities."

Underground Inc. is not just a company, it's Eric's extended family. From Karlana, (his wife of fifteen years) Courtney the manager, Hannah, Cayla, Jasmine and Emily who handle day to day operations at the coffee house and potpourri sales... to "Mo", Jonas, Kyle; "Chavez", the "Twins", Glenn and Jesse who assist in counter sales, production and distribution of Underground Potpourri. Everyone does their part to help out the "Family" and it will continue to be a success because of that attitude. We're a very "tight" team.

So the next time you are in the Salina area, be sure to stop by The Grind and say "high" to the family, if your not into expanding your mind, that is OK, they serve up some of the VERY BEST gourmet coffees, espresso's, latte's, cappuccino's, and macchiato's frappes.

"I am not a proponent of marijuana legalization"
Eric stated, "I simply want people to have the right to choose an alternative to marijuana... without all of the legal drama."

THE NEW BLENDS



MIDNIGHT
MOON

AROMATIC POTPOURRI
UNDERGROUND

5 Choice blends of
potpourri now
available at
Underground Inc.



UNDERGROUND™

Hill, Chief Jim

From: Sperling, Les [lsperling@c-k-f.org]
Sent: Thursday, January 20, 2011 10:02 AM
To: Hill, Chief Jim
Subject: Potpourri and bath salts cases

Chief Hill,

Thank you for your efforts to alert our community about the potpourri and bath salts abuse that is occurring. Over the last six weeks, CKF has been aware of **15 cases** of this nature in our Salina location. We are very concerned about these cases as patients presenting after ingesting these substances are very ill, experience vivid hallucinations, and in the most severe cases, a complete break from reality. They usually require immediate medical attention. Of special concern is the fact that youth, ages 18-20 appear to be the primary group using the substances. They are also smoking and injecting the substances, which increases the physical and mental consequences. Please let me know what we can do to support you and the community.

Thanks

Les Sperling

CEO

Central Kansas Foundation

785-825-6224

lsperling@c-k-f.org

Hill, Chief Jim

From: Benjamin, Linda [Linda.Benjamin@usd305.com]
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2011 11:27 AM
To: Hill, Chief Jim
Cc: Kiltz, Nancy
Subject: Potpourri

Chief Hill,

The following is an example of the frequency of use and the devastating false impressions of the dangers of what is being sold as potpourri. After returning from the police department on the day of the informational meeting, I was working as a substance abuse counselor in one of our Salina high schools where we had 3 incidents of students involving this mind altering drug. In each case when I met with the family, parents were aware their child had potpourri. Parents of these students made the following comments; "it is legal so I didn't know it was harmful", "I didn't know it was harmful because it is so easy to get", and "why would they sell it to children if it is dangerous".

This is just one afternoon in just one of the secondary schools in our City of Salina. If this is any indication of how much this dangerous drug is being ingested, it is my opinion that we would be considered neglectful citizens if we did not do everything possible in an attempt to ensure a safe and healthy environment for children.

Linda Benjamin
Counselor
linda.benjamin@usd305.com
785-309-3524

Hill, Chief Jim

From: meredith holman [meredithholman.91@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2011 12:51 AM
To: Hill, Chief Jim
Subject: Drug "Salt" Letter from Family
Attachments: Preston.docx

If the file does not open here is the letter below:

To whom it may concern:

On January 19, 2011 at 3 AM, I received a phone call from an Ottawa County deputy stating that he has my son in a jail cell because he was in a car accident from being under the influence. We talked for a moment and then I started thinking of what his blood alcohol level was and the deputy said "It is not alcohol", and so I asked him what he meant and the deputy said "It was drugs" (Bath Salt). I asked him what bath salt was and he explained it to me. And then I proceeded to ask more questions about it and found out that it was a legal substance in Kansas and is being bought at cigar shops, tattoo shops, and places of that nature. The deputy and I discussed the accident. My son was traveling to Salina in the evening of the 18th of January and he rolled his vehicle four times on interstate I-35 South bound by the Delphos exit, mile marker 185. I was told that the ambulance transported him to the Salina Regional Hospital where they ran a CAT scan, EKG, Blood work, and IVs and luckily all that was damaged on him was about a 3 in gash on his hand that required stitches and also he had scrapes and bruises. And then was transported back to the Ottawa County Jail where he stayed for approximately two days and a night where he slept and tried to recover because I would not bail him out.

Officials said that my son was somewhat belligerent but was not a disturbance to us and the other inmates. His mother was able to attend his first court appearance and after that our son was released to my wife. He was incoherent, fidgety, insecure, nervous, anxious, withdrawn ect. After finally being able to talk to him over the phone because I am out of state working, he explained to me that he was hallucinating while driving to Salina. He explained to me that he felt like someone covered his eyes making everything pitch black. Also he complained of when he looked out at something that alls that he could see where big round circles in his eyes blocking his vision. Finally he also said that he complained of groups of people yelling at him when no one was actually there. My son told me that once he was able to get out of the car after the car stopped rolling, he stood along the interstate trying to flag down help and no one would stop. He said that he almost stepped out onto the interstate to get the attention of oncoming traffic for help. Finally he was helped and the Sheriff department showed up. My wife took my son as soon as he was out of jail to Central Kansas Foundation (Alcohol and drug rehabilitation center for evaluation). My wife took him to see the condition of his car after the wreck and the crash site. That really spooked him, because he realized that he could have died. After this incident my son has told me and my wife that this has just scared the life out of him and this was also a life changing experience for him and as well as our family. I have asked him how much of "Salt" he has taken and he replied "3 lines" in one sitting and has done it about 3 to 5 times total within a 6 week time frame. He

said that students on and off the school campus have been using this drug called "Salt", Cloud nine and "Blue Magic". He said that students off campus are having hot tub parties and snorting the substance from a buffet styled table. He has also told me that he personally had bought a 25 gram bag of "Blue Magic" at the local Pack Rack shop in Salina, Kansas for roughly \$25. The substance was snorted through his nose.

I have since then called this shop and asked them if they sold "Cloud 9" and the clerk said "They did not know what it was and then I emphasized bath salt. I was still met with resistance and we finally concluded that they sell blue magic, which I believe is the same as Cloud 9 or any other names that they call it. I then told the clerk that I just about had to scrap my son off the interstate after a bad car accident because he was under the influence of this substance. I made a comment to the clerk that this substance that is for sale is going to start killing people and she replied back to me "That it is labeled for non-consumption" and the clerk asked how old my son was and I said 22 years old. Then the clerk replied back to me that he is an adult and should know better. My son has since then is back in school as of Monday January 24 and at his own request he has had a job interview and is looking forward to be getting back on track and not associating himself with people who do this drug and has also deleted multiple people on his cell phone that are a bad influence to him for his personal well being. I personally have contacted school faculty, administrators, law enforcement and other agencies and have been met with "deaf ears" and casual attitudes about this problem. I have told the school and the teachers of my son multiple times in the past to call me if there were any problems or concerns but have had no phones calls. School officials have not returned my phone calls as of Monday January 24 in regards to how we are going to get my son back on track in school. School officials and parents need to be accountable for these young adults' actions regardless if they are over 18 years old and provide a safe and secure environment on school campuses and also set boundaries and guidelines and not have such a casual attitude about their student's actions and behavior. As a parent I feel let down by the school system because I was told by staff that he was drinking and suspected of substance abuse after this incident had occurred. A simple phone call could have changed the outcome of what has happened. But I have been told that they are adults and was reminded about student confidentiality code. My reply was at what cost do we justify the pain and sufferings that families have to go through because of the student confidentiality code. I was lucky that he had his accident when he did because if left undetected, he would have been on a road of destruction and could have killed himself as well as others. This has been a dramatic financial burden estimated at \$10,000 dollars for my family. I as well as my family could have lost a child and a brother to his sister. Our son is a good and hard working kid who loves to landscape and be outdoors. We have had so many compliments about him from others about how polite and nice he is and that he is a joy to be around. He is an outstanding individual. This is out of his nature to do something this dramatic. I as well as many other parents who are going through this hope that in the near future the State as well as the County will be able to fix this problem that has erupted in Kansas and save many lives before any more deaths occur or any other incidents occur as well. I am confident that my son will rise above this problem and is a better person because of it now.

My son has indicated that he wishes that he could attend the meeting with Chief Hill to give a personal account of his personal experience and he feels extremely lucky to be here today with us and everyone else. My son is a 3rd year student at Cloud County Community College. He is enrolled in the Wind Energy Program and is soon going to be completing this program to get his diploma. He is very excited about this and knowing that he is going to make something of himself in this new and upcoming job field. This accident has been a revelation to him. He has told me and my wife that he and everyone

else only has one life and that it can change in an instant based off of choices that are made. He realizes that this drug "Salt" and many other drugs/alcohol are not worth it in the end. He said "they are all bad things". "After seeing what I put my family through and what I went through; it just is not worth it in the end" a quote from my son.

My condolences go out to the families for their loses and pain that this substance has caused.

Sincerely;

Mark Holman and Family

P.S. I have spoken with the deputy that worked on the accident and he said that he has not even cleaned out his patrol car that is covered in blood from my sons accident because he had to transport another victim of the same circumstances the very next night.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR Bobby Jindal

STATE OF LOUISIANA

Jan 06, 2011

Governor Jindal Announces Emergency Rule to Crack Down on Distribution & Possession of Fake Bath Salts

MANDEVILLE – Today, Governor Bobby Jindal joined Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) Secretary Bruce D. Greenstein, St. Tammany Parish Sheriff Jack Strain and other law enforcement officials to announce that a series of dangerous chemicals being marketed as “bath salts” or “plant food” have been added to the Controlled Dangerous Substance Act, making it illegal to possess, manufacture or distribute them in Louisiana.

Since the end of September, Louisiana Poison Control has received 165 calls from people in crisis after snorting, smoking or injecting these dangerous substances. Eighty-five percent of these calls came from emergency room physicians or first responders caring for individuals suffering the traumatic side effects of ingesting these chemicals as drugs. These types of crises are being reported across the country and the 165 calls in Louisiana represents nearly 57 percent of calls recorded nationwide. Further, Louisiana’s reported calls about this drug are seven more times than Kentucky – which has received the second most calls at 23.

Users of these drugs are being treated for extreme paranoia, hallucinations, delusions, agitation, hypertension, chest pain, headache, and many report suicidal thoughts. Law enforcement officials and emergency room doctors have reported violent encounters with those high on the substance.

Governor Jindal said, “These drugs have crept into our communities and they are hurting our kids. We have to do everything in our power to protect our children and to make sure our streets are safe for our families. The reality is that the chemicals used to make these dangerous substances have no legitimate use other than to provide a high for the user. Make no mistake – these are very dangerous drugs and we must get them off our streets.

“Today’s announcement gives our law enforcement officials the tools they need to crack down on the people pushing these dangerous drugs. Indeed, our law enforcement officials can immediately take these drugs off the shelf – and at the same time, it’s now illegal to possess and use these dangerous chemicals.”

Under revised statute 40:962, the DHH Secretary and State Health Officer have the authority to add compounds as a Schedule I drug in the controlled dangerous substance act by rule if the substance has a high potential for abuse, has no currently accepted medical use in the U.S. and if there is no accepted safety use of the substance under medical supervision.

In total, there are six chemicals being added to the list of Schedule I drugs. Specifically, the chemicals added by rule are 3,4-Methylenedioxymethcathinone (Methylone), 3,4-Methylenedioxypyrovalerone (MDPV), 4-Methylmethcathinone (Mephedrone), 4-methoxymethcathinone, 4-Fluoromethcathinone and 3-Fluoromethcathinone. By adding these chemicals to the controlled dangerous substance act as Schedule I drugs, the possession, manufacturing or distribution of these drugs will carry penalties similar to those of heroin, which could mean up to 30 years in prison.

Governor Jindal said the state is also sending a letter to the United State Drug Enforcement Agency requesting they investigate the disproportionate number of cases in Louisiana to see if there is a reason to believe the state is a distribution center for these substances. Additionally, the Governor said he would pursue legislation in the upcoming legislative session to further crack down on the distribution and use of fake bath salts.

5-15

"We are seeing an increased rate of psychotic symptoms in people after ingesting these drugs. The growing rate of calls to poison control and reports from law enforcement and psychiatric facilities is extraordinarily alarming and demands swift action," Secretary Greenstein said. "Louisiana Poison Control Director Dr. Mark Ryan tells me that in 20 years with poison control, he's never seen a phenomenon like the one Louisiana is experiencing today. On Christmas Day alone, he recorded nine calls. People just don't understand the devastating effects these drugs are having. At least one psychiatric unit in the state is reporting to us that half of its patients in any given week in December were related to this drug."

These fake bath salts, commonly manufactured in China and India, are being marketed as bath salts and are being sold in individual bags on the Internet and in convenience stores and on the street by the brand names Ivory Wave, Ocean, Charge +, White Lightning, Scarface, Hurricane Charlie, Red Dove, Cloud-9 and White Dove. These substances have already been banned in the United Kingdom and several other countries, including Israel, Australia and Canada. In the United States, Kentucky has already filed legislation to ban the substance and North Dakota's Pharmacy Board has added several of these same chemicals to their state's banned substance list.

Louisiana State Police Colonel Mike Edmonson said, "Leadership is critical in our efforts to protect the citizens of Louisiana, and I applaud the leadership of Governor Jindal and Secretary Greenstein for taking this important step. Nothing is more important than our children, they are our future. We remain committed to working with our law enforcement partners across the state to educate the public on the dangers of synthetic substances and take appropriate enforcement action when necessary."

Dr. Rochelle Head-Dunham, medical director of DHH's Office of Behavioral Health, reminded parents that laws alone are not enough. "Parents must sit down today with their children and have a very honest and serious discussion about the consequences these drugs – and all illegal drugs have – not just the physical and psychological consequences, but now, the legal consequences. We need young people to understand that this isn't a game."

###

GOV.LOUISIANA.GOV

5-16

House Corrections and Juvenile Justice Committee

REF: Support of HB2049

18 January 2011

Dear Sirs,

My name is Tamara Gutierrez and I am coming here today to tell you how potpourri has affected my family and my 16 year old son. Approximately 5 months ago my son started smoking potpourri. My son was told that this was a safe and legal substance that he could smoke to get high. He began buying this in the local head shop in Salina Kansas called The Underground. Apparently 16 is the legal age to purchase this. I began to notice a change in my son almost immediately. He began having violent outbursts. He was punching holes in his bedroom walls, hitting a glass lamp, falling through a glass coffee table and suffering severe cuts on his thighs and legs. We then noticed right before Christmas that he was no longer eating or sleeping much at night, and then came the nausea and diarrhea. We ended up in the emergency room on Christmas Eve when he became very sick and was having trouble catching his breath. My son was given breathing treatments along with antibiotics and sent home. We had no idea what was making him so sick. It was only after finding 15 empty packages of potpourri, a package of bath salt along with pipes and bongs in his room, and visiting with Mr. Norton, that we became aware of what was happening.

My son has now tried to quit and has been unsuccessful. He is suffering severe headaches, and on two different occasions has exceeded the normal limit on pills. During an argument with his 14 year old sister, he lost control and slapped her then pulled out a knife and put it to his wrist. He has also cut himself four times on his upper arm, and has attempted to run away. We have had to call the police twice now to our home for assistance, all because we won't let him go to Salina with his friends to purchase potpourri. As a parent this frightens us to death. I would like to not only see potpourri taken off the shelves, but those who do sell it treated like the drug dealer they are.

Sincerely,

Tamara Gutierrez

House Corrections and Juvenile Justice
Committee
2011 Session
Date 1-25-11
Attachment # 6

Testimony concerning HB2049 Amending the Controlled
Substance Schedule regarding
Tetrahydrocannabinols and related substances
Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice
Presented by Debra Billingsley
on behalf of
The Kansas Board of Pharmacy
January 25, 2010

Madam Chair, Members of the Committee:

My name is Debra Billingsley, and I am the Executive Secretary of the Kansas Board of Pharmacy. Our Board is created by statute and is comprised of seven members, each of whom is appointed by the Governor. Of the seven, six are licensed pharmacists and one is a member of the general public. They are charged with protecting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Kansas and to educate and promote the understanding of pharmacy practices in Kansas.

The Board met on December 2, 2010 and reviewed the proposed synthetic marijuana legislation that would amend K.S.A. 65-4105 of the Controlled Substance Act. The amendment would restrict synthetic cannabinoids by class rather than each individual chemical compound. The synthetic cannabinoid class of drugs is expanding at such a rapid pace that the amendment was drafted to provide a more efficient way to restrict these drugs in Kansas.

The THC-like synthetic cannabinoids have similar properties to tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) found in marijuana with purported psychotropic effects. They have a high potential for abuse, no currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States and are not safe for use under medical supervision. The Board of Pharmacy supports scheduling synthetic cannabinoids by class as these substances have no current medical use known to the Board.

Thank you for permitting me to testify. I will yield to any questions from the committee.



Kansas Association of Addiction Professionals

Kansas Association of Addiction Professionals

**107 SW 6th Ave, Ste. 200
Topeka, KS 66603
785-235-2400**

January 25, 2011

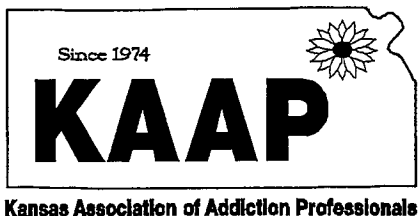
House Corrections and Juvenile Justice Committee

House Bill 2049: Amending the controlled substances schedule regarding tetrahydrocannabinols and related substances

Sarah M. Hansen, Executive Director

Kansas Association of Addiction Professionals

For Additional Information Contact: Stuart Little, Association Lobbyist, Little Government Relations, LLC, 800 SW Jackson St, Ste 914, Topeka KS 66612, (785) 845-7265 or Sarah Hansen, Association Executive Director, (785) 235-2400.



Kansas Association of Addiction Professionals

**107 SW 6th Ave, Ste. 200
Topeka, KS 66603
785-235-2400**

January 25, 2011

House Corrections and Juvenile Justice Committee

House Bill 2049: Amending the controlled substances schedule regarding tetrahydrocannabinols and related substances

Chairwoman Colloton and committee members:

I thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony today related to the proposed House Bill 2049. My name is Sarah Hansen and I am here today representing the Kansas Association of Addiction Professionals. Our association is comprised of nearly 500 addiction treatment and prevention professionals across the state of Kansas. We appear today to issue our support of the public safety elements presented in the bill.

The association works with addiction treatment providers all around the state. Our providers are often at the front lines viewing first hand the harmful consequences of new drugs of abuse. We are hearing reports of abuses, particularly among juveniles, of "bath salts." This substance, which often contains MDPV (Methylene Dioxy Pyrovalerone) or Mephedrone is of great concern. The impact of this usage, far from taking extended usage to manifest, is swift and traumatic. Many who inject, smoke, or inhale bath salts require immediate medical attention. Younger people appear to be the primary users of this substance. As treatment providers, the appearance of this new and powerful drug also increases the financial burden in the already funding-starved system.

We in the treatment provider community welcome your attention to this growing national and Kansas issue. We support HB 2049 with revisions to include "bath salts," listed as a specific chemical or by classification, and encourage your efforts to move the bill forward in a timely manner.

Thank you for your time and I would be pleased to respond to questions at the appropriate time.