

# Kansas Peace Officers' Association



INCORPORATED

TELEPHONE 316-722-8433

www.kpoa.org kpoa@kpoa.org

P.O. Box 2592 · WICHITA, KANSAS 67201

## Testimony to the House Committee on Judiciary Opposing HB2606 February 13, 2024

Chairwoman Humphries and Committee Members:

The Kansas Peace Officers' Association is grateful for the continued opportunities to share our members' input regarding proposed bills, including House Bill 2606.

Asset forfeiture, applied correctly, is a tool that allows law enforcement agencies to use proceeds from criminal acts, instead of using tax dollars, to be proactive instead of reactive in fighting crime. The KPOA supports transparency with any type of criminal or civil proceeding, as that promotes trust and support from the public we serve.

KPOA concurs with many of the amendments and respectfully recommends two changes to HB 2606:

#1 Section 8 (f) (2), the KPOA is opposed to ordering law enforcement to pay for attorney fees if the claimant prevails in the civil case, assuming the officer(s) acted in good faith.

#2 In the same section, regarding the presiding judge, KPOA requests the word "shall" be replaced by the word "may." The provisions of this section are the basis for our opposition to the bill.

The Kansas Peace Officers' Association appreciates your consideration of these suggestions.

Paul Schliffke

Past President

KPOA Legislative Committee