

## KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF COURT SERVICES OFFICERS

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY Senator Kellie Warren, Chair

> March 19, 10:30 a.m. Room 346-S

Kevin Waring, Chief Court Services Officer, 10<sup>th</sup> Judicial District kevin.waring@kscourts.org

NEUTRAL TESTIMONY - HOUSE BILL No. 2741

Ms. Chairwoman and Honorable Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony regarding House Bill No. 2741. I am the Chief Court Services Officer of the 10<sup>th</sup> Judicial District in Johnson County. I provide today's testimony as the Legislative Chair of the Kansas Association of Court Services Officers (KACSO), which currently represents over 400 Court Services Officers across Kansas.

Court Services Officers (CSOs) supervise adult probation cases at the direction of district courts throughout the state. During Fiscal Year 2023, CSOs were assigned 8,868 new cases, released 14,984 cases, and had a fiscal year ending balance of 11,506 adults on supervision. These cases cover the Kansas criminal justice system spectrum. We supervise first-time misdemeanors up to high-level felonies with extensive criminal history. As a result of the wide range of persons we supervise, KACSO supports keeping the language currently in K.S.A. 21-6607(b), which remains in House Bill 2741, specifically noting that "*The court may impose any conditions of probation, suspension of sentence or assignment to a community correctional services program that the court deems proper*,". KACSO believes it is important that district courts maintain this ability to order supervision conditions needed to promote community safety and success on supervision.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Kevin Waring KACSO Legislative Chair

The mission of the Kansas Association of Court Services Officers is to challenge, educate, support and advocate for the membership by promoting fellowship and professionalism, providing relevant training opportunities and maintaining communication with all members. The organization will further this mission by encouraging collaboration with our Court Services Officers and professional organizations and by recognizing member excellence.

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