

Kansas Sheriffs' Association

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Testimony to the House Committee on Judiciary Proponent Testimony on SB 244

March 5, 2025

Chairwoman Humphries and Committee Members,

The new language of SB 244 is on page 3, starting on line 30. This language is shoring up a loophole that was exposed after the passing of a bill that made bond companies post 10% bonds during the 2024 session.

In current statute, it is allowable for the bond company to post 5% of the bond the obligor provides the additional 5% for the bond. What was discovered is a few bond companies were telling and providing the obligor's that the bond company would provide a loan to them that they could pay the bond company back later.

The intent of the law that was passed last year was to create an opportunity for those who could afford it, to provide 5% of the bond with their own money, not to pay bonding companies twice. KSA believes this takes advantage of the less fortunate in our communities.

KSA believes the language, as proposed, will stop this practice. We are supportive of the new proposed language.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sheriff Jeff Easter KSA Legislative Chair