

Date: March 5, 2025

To: Madam Susan Humphries and members of the House Judiciary Committee

From: Judi Rodman, President/CEO, Sunflower House, Child Advocacy Center, Shawnee, KS

Re: Senate Bill 204

Chair Humphries and Esteemed Members of the Committee,

I appreciate the opportunity to provide written support for Senate Bill 204. My name is Judi Rodman, and I am the President and CEO of Sunflower House, serving Johnson and Wyandotte Counties. As part of the Children's Advocacy Centers of Kansas (CACKS) network, we address the complex needs of child victims of abuse, child witnesses to violent crimes such as domestic and community violence, as well as child human trafficking.

I want to share some background information about child abuse and the children we serve. 1 out of every 10 kids will experience child sexual abuse by their 18th birthday. 90% of those children know, like or love their alleged perpetrator. With that being said, only 30% of children disclose their abuse in childhood. Children have a multitude of reasons why they don't disclose their abuse; threats, intimidation, shame, guilt, embarrassment and fear, to name a few. It is shocking to think that 70% of child victims do not disclose their abuse in childhood. In fact, the average age of disclosure is age 52.

Sunflower House serves over 40,000 children and adults through our prevention education program. We serve over 500 victims of abuse on an annual basis.

In 2024, a state-wide court management system, Odyssey, was implemented. As a provider of services for child victims, I have concerns about Odyssey that can leave children of abuse and violence at risk.

Warrant Information:

One area of concern is **warrant information**. In the Odyssey court management system, when a warrant is issued, the following information may be viewed by the public; the name of the alleged offender, a list of charges, the date of the offense, the city and county in which the offense occurred, and the judge who signed the documents. As the leader of a child advocacy center, this leaves us greatly concerned for our child victims and non-offending caregivers. Not only does this allow an alleged offender to gain information that a warrant has been issued, it also puts victims of violence at risk. We know that when victim's stand up against their abusers, they face an increased risk of injury or death. We also know that the non-offending caregiver is also at risk during this time.



Personal Identification Information:

As the state-wide court management system, Odyssey, has been implemented, prosecutors must utilize personally identifiable information when subpoening individuals and documents to present their case. Personally identifiable information may include the names of minor children that are victims of abuse, addresses of victims, bank account information and social security numbers. There is no doubt that victims will be at continued risk with their personal information made public.

One of our goals is to protect the privacy of our young victims.

I understand the desire of transparency

Respectfully,

Judi Rodman, LPC President and CEO Sunflower House, Inc.

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