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## Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs Proponent Testimony on HB 2052, as amended March 17, 2025

Senator Thompson and Members of the Committee:

Section 1 of this bill will clean up citations in the Personal and Family Protection Act (PFPA) that have been inaccurate since the passing of HB 2058 in 2021, referred to as the Kansas Protection of Firearms Rights Act. Among other things, HB 2058 amended K.S.A. 21-6301 and 21-6304 by adding new sections to both statutes. The new numbering of firearms prohibitors and disqualifying convictions for possession of a concealed carry license was not carried over into the Personal and Family Protection Act. This bill will update the citations in the PFPA to reflect the amended numbering. This will prevent wrongful denial of concealed carry applications as well as prevent issuance of concealed carry licenses to ineligible applicants.

Sections 2 and 4 of this bill will allow a person who was under 21 and issued a provisional concealed carry handgun license (CCHL) to request and be issued a standard CCHL after turning 21. Currently, a person issued a provisional license must wait a full 4 years and may only have their provisional license transitioned to a standard CCHL upon renewal, regardless of when they turned 21. Some states that accept a Kansas standard CCHL will not accept a provisional license or allow those under 21 to carry concealed firearms in those states. This bill will allow Kansas citizens who are 21 to receive a standard CCHL and carry into states that do not accept provisional licenses. In addition, this bill will eliminate the confusion encountered when a provisional license is used to attempt to purchase a firearm. Currently, a provisional CCHL is not accepted by many federal firearms licensed dealers to purchase a handgun, even if the purchaser is 21 or older. This bill will allow licensees who turn 21 to utilize the full benefits of their CCHL for both firearms purchases and out-of-state travel.

An amendment is needed to Section 2 of this bill to restore language to the Personal and Family Protection Act (PFPA) that was inadvertently removed with the passing of SB 491 in 2024. Among other actions relating to criminal history and record checks, SB 491 amended K.S.A. 75-7c05 to reference the newly created statute K.S.A. 22-4714. A statement requiring concealed carry applicants to undergo a background check that included an inquiry of the national instant criminal background check system (NICS) was removed from the PFPA, and this language was not included in the newly created statute under SB 491. Although a NICS inquiry has always been and is still being completed for all concealed carry applicants, it must be

included in statute for Kansas concealed carry licenses to be in compliance with ATF Alternate Check state requirements.

Unless K.S.A. 75-7c05 is amended, Kansas will lose its status as an ATF Alternate Check state. This loss will have a significant impact on both Kansas concealed carry licensees and federal firearms licensed dealers throughout the state as it will delay or prevent firearms sales to law-abiding citizens who currently hold a valid concealed carry license. As Kansas is a constitutional carry state, Alternate Check privileges are one of the most significant reasons citizens have to acquire a concealed carry license in Kansas. Ensuring ongoing compliance with ATF requirements will promote the interests of the tens of thousands of Kansans who carry this license.

An amendment is needed to Section 3 of this bill regarding the Personal and Family Protection Act (PFPA) to require a person to surrender their concealed carry license card to the Division of Vehicles upon suspension or revocation of the license. This aligns the PFPA with portions of Kansas statute requiring a suspended or revoked license be surrendered to the Division of Vehicles under current law (K.S.A. 8-257). The Division of Vehicles, upon authorization by the Office of the Attorney General, produces a concealed carry license card for an approved applicant. Return of the card to the dispensing agency would be the most efficient method of surrender as the Division of Vehicles already has processes in place to handle returned license cards. The division may destroy the license upon receipt.

Following the conclusion of the suspension, the Office of the Attorney General will issue an authorization document that must be presented to the Division of Vehicles to have the concealed carry license card reissued for the remaining term of the license.

This bill will protect law-abiding citizens by preventing a potentially dangerous person who is prohibited from being in possession of a firearm and has had their concealed carry license suspended or revoked from using that license to travel to another state with a firearm or attempt to purchase additional firearms.

Section 5 of this bill will prohibit an armed off-duty law enforcement officer (LEO) entering a building from being required to provide personal information beyond their LEO credentials, and will prevent their personal information (such as home address and personal email) from being recorded. This bill will also prohibit an off-duty LEO from being subjected to additional identification requirements while on the premises, such as wearing any item identifying them as a LEO or as being armed. This type of treatment of off-duty law enforcement is an infringement on their privacy and should not be allowed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Hutchison Acting Chief Deputy Attorney General Office of the Attorney General

## Proposed Amendment to Section 2 of HB 2052

K.S.A. 75.7c05(d): Each applicant shall be subject to a state and national criminal history records check, *including an inquiry of the national instant criminal background check system*, in accordance with K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 22-4714, and amendments thereto.

## Proposed Amendment to Section 3 of HB 2052

K.S.A. 75.7c07(d): Upon the suspension or revocation of a license issued pursuant to this act, the licensee shall surrender the physical license card or authorization document issued pursuant to K.S.A. 75-7c03(d), and amendments thereto, to the Division of Vehicles. attorney general. If suspended Upon receipt, such physical license card or authorization document shall be destroyed. returned to the licensee at the Upon conclusion of such suspension, the attorney general shall issue an authorization document for the license to be reissued for the remaining unexpired portion of the term of such person's license. The attorney general may impose a fee in an amount not to exceed \$250 on any licensee who fails to surrender a license within 30 days after written notification has been sent to such licensee that such license is suspended or revoked. All fees collected by the attorney general pursuant to this subsection shall be remitted to the state treasurer who shall deposit the entire amount in the state treasury and credit such amount to the concealed handgun licensure fund.