

Cheryl McCabria
Proponent Testimony for SB 358
To the Kansas Senate Judiciary Committee
February 4, 2026

Written-Only Testimony

Dear Chair Warren and Members of the Committee:

My name is Cheryl McCabria. I am a victim of rape connected to the Clark Petersen case, and I am testifying in support of Senate Bill 358.

I am testifying today because SB 358 will prevent victims in the future from having to go through the emotional distress and uncertainty that both myself and the other victims of sexual assault in the Clark Petersen case had to endure.

After the verdict was read and Clark Petersen was found guilty on multiple felony charges, the judge did not revoke his bond and he was allowed to go home overnight. As a potential flight risk, he was not asked to wear a GPS monitoring device. The only thing I remember the judge asking Clark Petersen's attorney was whether or not he had a passport. His attorney said that he did not and that seemed to suffice for the judge to not consider him a flight risk and send him home. The judge did not seem concerned that he may pose a risk of danger to himself or others. Anyone in Clark Petersen's position with the possibility of life in prison does pose a risk for harmful behavior directed towards himself or others, and his bond should have been revoked so that he could be safely monitored in jail until his sentencing.

As a victim of rape in this case, I was confused, distressed, and anxious after his guilty verdict was read and he was allowed to walk freely out of the court room. I did not sleep much that night as I wondered what Clark Petersen might try to do to me, himself, or others. I prayed for everyone's safety that night and that he would show up to court the next day to hear the verdict on the state's motion for an upward dispositional departure and to have his bond revoked so he could finally be held in jail.

Senate Bill 358 will allow for the safety of both the perpetrator and the victim from potential harm and emotional distress by revoking the bond of the perpetrator after he or she receives a guilty verdict on certain felonies and will keep everyone safe by placing the guilty perpetrator in jail while awaiting sentencing. Thank you for your consideration of this bill which will ensure the safety and emotional well-being of all members in our community.

Sincerely,



Cheryl McCabria
Riley County Resident