



## KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF COURT SERVICES OFFICERS

TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE CORRECTIONS AND JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMITTEE  
BRYAN J. WEISER, LEGISLATIVE CHAIRPERSON  
KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF COURT SERVICES OFFICERS (KACSO)  
ON SB 159 – CONDITIONS OF RELEASE; SEARCHES OF PAROLEES; CONDITIONS FOR  
SEX OFFENDERS; CONDITIONS FOR PROBATIONERS  
JANUARY 27, 2012

Representative Colloton and Members of the Committee:

My name is Bryan Weiser and I am a Court Services Officer (CSO) for the 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial District and I serve as the Legislative Chairperson for the Kansas Association of Court Services Officers (KACSO). I would like to thank the committee for giving me the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of substitute for S.B. 159.

Very briefly, CSOs are employed within all 31 judicial districts and provide invaluable services to the District Courts of Kansas. These duties include but are not limited to: preparing presentence investigation reports on felony and misdemeanor convictions, supervising adult and juvenile offenders placed on probation, supervising pretrial and appeal bond defendants, conducting child custody investigations, mediation services, and providing Child in Need of Care (CINC) services.

On behalf of the KACSO membership, I urge the committee to act in support of S.B. 159, specifically section 2 (c) (5) & (6) as outlined below:

*(5) be subject to searches of the defendant's person, effect, vehicle, residence and property by court service officers, community correctional services officers and other law enforcement officers based on reasonable suspicion of the defendant violating conditions of probation or criminal activity; and*

*(6) be subject to random, but reasonable, tests for drug and alcohol consumptions as order by a court services officer or community correctional services officer.*

A large number of districts have identified the above conditions as invaluable tools to assist in the supervision of offenders, enhance the safety of officers, as well as contributing to overall public safety. By enumerating these conditions in statute, it would provide legislative support and authority for implementation within all districts throughout the State.

It is recommended, the officers listed in #5 (*court service officers, community correctional services officers and other law enforcement officers*) be utilized in #6 as well. As always, the fiscal impact of legislation is reviewed prior to implementation and considering that most drug testing at this time is paid by / charged to the offender, there should be a negligible impact. Therefore, it is recommended that a phrase such as "at the defendant's/offender's expense" be added to #6 as well.

Should you need additional information or have further questions, I'd be glad to present additional written testimony, or appear before the committee if requested. Thank you for accepting this testimony and for your service to the citizens of Kansas.

*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 organizations and by recognizing member excellence.*

An American Probation and Parole Association Affiliat

House Corrections and Juvenile Justice  
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