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Senate Bill 367
Jury Pool Expansion

House Judiciary
Thursday, March 8, 2012

Testimony
By: Koleen Nosekabel, Clerk of the District Court
Seward County District Court
26th Judicial District

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today on behalf of the Kansas Association of District Court Clerks and Administrators regarding Senate Bill 367.

We would like to expand the jury pool to include state income tax filers. This information is updated yearly. This additional source would provide more accurate address information than the Department of Motor Vehicles whose information is only updated every six years.

K.S.A. 43-162 current law states jury lists shall be prepared from voter registration records of the county, lists of licensed drivers residing in the county or enumeration or census records for the county. Lists of holders of state-issued non drivers' identification cards who reside in the county may also be used.

One of the major hurdles in summoning a jury is the amount of jury questionnaires returned as non-deliverable because of insufficient address or the person has moved. This is an overwhelming cost to each county and the state in postage, supplies and labor. Returns due to bad addresses are estimated at 30-50% statewide.

Information that would be disclosed by Kansas Department of Revenue and used for this purpose includes name, last known address, and residency status. Other states allowing access to this information include Indiana, Connecticut, New York, and the District of Columbia.

The Senate recommended passage of this bill on a vote of 38 to 2. We urge the committee's favorable recommendation of this bill. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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