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**Testimony to the House Judiciary Committee
In Support of SB424, CPOST and Law Enforcement Training and Standards Amendments
March 12, 2012**

Chairman Kinzer and Committee Members,

The Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police, the Kansas Sheriffs Association, and the Kansas Peace Officers Association support the proposed changes to the statutes establishing the statutory requirements for certification of law enforcement officers. The proposal also revises the statutes providing the investigatory authority and the ability of the Kansas Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training to appropriately sanction officers who are found to be in violation of the standards. These revisions are needed to address several legal challenges the Commission currently receives due to vague language in the existing statutes.

These statutes and the Commission processes are critical to assuring quality law enforcement for all Kansans. Law enforcement wants proper controls to assure reasonable corrective measures can be taken when appropriate. For those cases so grievous the officer should be removed from law enforcement services, it is important that capability is present. Those actions must always be subjected to due process and legal challenges. We believe these revisions strengthen the Commission's stance in these critical areas.

We encourage the Committee to recommend the bill favorably for passage.

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