



**Kansas Association of
Chiefs of Police**

PO Box 2163
Hutchinson, KS 67504
(620) 242-6565



**Kansas Sheriffs
Association**

PO Box 1122
Pittsburg, KS 66762
(620) 687-1206



**Kansas Peace Officers
Association**

PO Box 2592
Wichita, KS 67201
(316) 722-8433

**Testimony to the House Education Committee
In Support of HB2709
February 14, 2024**

Chairman Thomas and Committee Members,

Our associations support HB2709 establishing Drug Abuse Awareness Education Programs and a Fentanyl Awareness Week in schools across Kansas. We continue to support programs to reduce the risk of fentanyl overdoses through public awareness and education, in addition to our work to strengthen our criminal laws to address the fentanyl crisis. This program is an important step in addressing this with our children, and hopefully with their parents. Furthermore, the bill does this in a way that is not overly intrusive to the schools by allowing the development of standards by the State Board of Education.

We must arm our children with age-appropriate knowledge of the risks of substance abuse, including the relationship with fentanyl. We are hopeful our schools will embrace this opportunity as well.

We encourage you to pass this bill favorably.

Sheriff Jeff Easter, Sedgwick County
KSA Legislative Committee Chair