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**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Judiciary  
In Support of HB2601**

March 20, 2024

Chair Warren and Committee Members,

Our associations support HB2601, changing the provisions for addiction treatment related to DUI convictions. The bill creates additional opportunities for the court to use a risk assessment tool to determine programming needs to be carried out during probation or post release to what is already allowed for convictions sentenced under K.S.A. 8-1567 (b)(1)(C). The expanded opportunity is for those convicted and sentenced under (b)(1)(D) and (b)(1)(E), cases with subsequent and more recent convictions than currently than where this is applied in current law.

It is our opinion that additional opportunities for repeat offenders to have post release or probation programming established by risk assessment tools can certainly cause no harm, and provides opportunities to assist the violator in not repeating their DUI behavior. The DUI offender with multiple DUI convictions are very likely to have alcohol and/or drug addictions along with other behavioral health issues. It is important to use all available tools to take the opportunity available to the court to encourage the offender to participate in programming individualized to their needs. The assessment tool will help make that happen. This should not be a one-and-done approach as in current statute.

Changing behavior is the ultimate goal of all punishment and post-conviction programming. This bill merely affords more opportunity for that to happen. We encourage you to move the bill forward favorably.

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