



**KANSAS BAR
ASSOCIATION**

TO: The Honorable Kellie Warren, Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

FROM: Joseph N. Molina, On Behalf of the Kansas Bar Association

RE: SB 317 - Permitting a prosecution for childhood sexual abuse to be commenced at any time, extending the time to file civil actions for recovery of damages caused by childhood sexual abuse and providing exceptions in the Kansas tort claims act for claims arising from such abuse.

DATE: March 23, 2023

Chairman Warren and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary, my name is Joseph Molina and I provide this information on behalf of the Kansas Bar Association as it relates to SB 317 - Permitting a prosecution for childhood sexual abuse to be commenced at any time, extending the time to file civil actions for recovery of damages caused by childhood sexual abuse and providing exceptions in the Kansas tort claims act for claims arising from such abuse.

The Kansas Bar Association was asked to review SB 317 earlier this week. To that end, SB 317 was distributed to several KBA Committees and Sections for comment. The KBA process included the Family Law Section, Criminal Law Section, Litigation Section and the KBA Legislative Committee. In addition, the KBA Executive Committee made up of KBA Leadership was able to review SB 317.

It is important to realize that the KBA is made up of broad spectrum of lawyers licensed in Kansas. We represent thousands of attorneys including prosecutors, private and public criminal defenders, members from the Kansas Association of Defense Counsel, many government attorneys, transactional lawyers and judges from each of the 31 judicial districts in Kansas.

While we appreciate the seriousness of SB 317 and the issues it is designed to address, we do not take a formal position on the merits of the bill. This committee is well positioned to review the pros and cons of extending the statute of limitations in child sex abuse cases. We are confident that your review will help both chambers render a decision when the bill is considered. On behalf of the Kansas Bar Association, we appreciate the opportunity to review SB 317.

Thank you for your time and attention. I am happy to stand for questions if appropriate.

About the Kansas Bar Association:

The Kansas Bar Association (KBA) was founded in 1882 as a voluntary association for dedicated legal professionals. Its more than 6,200 members include lawyers, judges, law students, and paralegals. www.ksbar.org