



**Kansas Association of Addiction Professionals**

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**107 SW 6th Ave, Ste. 200  
Topeka, KS 66603  
785-235-2400**

Senate Judiciary Committee

January 19, 2011

Senate Bill 7: Driving Under the Influence (DUI) Bill

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Kansas Association of Addiction Professionals

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Chairman Owens and committee members:

I thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony today related to the proposed DUI bill. My name is Sarah Hansen and I am here today representing the Kansas Association of Addiction Professionals. Our association is comprised of nearly 500 addiction treatment and prevention professionals across the state of Kansas. We appear today to issue our support of the public safety elements presented in the bill.

The association was pleased to be represented on the Kansas DUI Commission. The association, through our two members, was able to provide insight and feedback related to the assessment and treatment of individuals convicted of a DUI. We appreciate the time and energy invested in this legislation by all the parties. We are happy to provide our perspective on key elements we hope the committee and public will support.

- This bill calls for persons to participate in an alcohol and drug evaluation conducted by a licensed provider with a DUI specialty. This is a long needed change in which both the court and the individual being assessed will now have the assurance of obtaining a DUI assessor who has demonstrated compliance to state standards and will be routinely monitored by the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. This provision also aids judicial districts as they will be provided a list of licensed providers with a DUI specialty license who may conduct evaluations.
- This bill calls for the use of a standardized substance abuse evaluation approved by the secretary of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Currently, there is no state wide evaluation required causing inconsistencies throughout the state.
- The bill calls for the direct payment of evaluation to the provider at the time of service. Again, this is a long awaited change as many providers never receive payment for services or, receive payment months or years after the service has been rendered. While we appreciate the attempt to set a standard fee, a fee range may be better suited as costs in service provisions increase over time.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. I will stand for questions at the appropriate time.