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**Testimony to the Senate Judiciary Committee  
In Support of SB55 Harassment by Telecommunications Devices  
February 7, 2011**

The Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police and the Kansas Peace Officers Association support passage of HB55. This bill modernizes the statute currently titled Harassment by Telephone. That statute, KSA 21-4113 has not been amended since 1993. Since that time, the proliferation of a multitude of electronic devices has broadened the opportunities for devious people to use other more modern electronic devices to harass others. This proposal will include the use of cell phones and so called smart phones. It also adds the transmission of images or text. These amendments are critical for law enforcement to be able to respond appropriately to the needs of victim's of this harmful behavior.

We do offer one comment for amendment consideration. On page 2, line 10 we are concerned if "makes use of telephone lines or services" captures all of the potential abuses. We would ask the committee to consider the wisdom of perhaps amending that by adding ", wireless services, or internet services." We feel this would more clearly cover text messaging and e-mail as well as the use of pagers, devices on cable networks, and developing technology such as I-pads, Skype, and VoIP phones and devices to harass another person.

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Senate Judiciary

2-7-11

Attachment 4

1 (c) Every telephone directory published for distribution to members  
2 of the general public shall contain a notice setting forth a summary of the  
3 provisions of this section. Such notice shall be printed in type which is no  
4 smaller than any other type on the same page and shall be preceded by the  
5 word "WARNING."

6 (d) As used in this section, "~~telefacsimile communication~~" means the  
7 use of electronic equipment to send or transmit a copy of a document via  
8 ~~telephone line~~ "*telecommunications device*" includes telephones, cellular  
9 telephones, telefacsimile machines and any other electronic device which  
10 makes use of telephone lines or services, wireless services, or internet services.

11 Sec. 2. Section 184 of chapter 136 of the 2010 Session Laws of  
12 Kansas is hereby repealed.

13 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its  
14 publication in the statute book.