

House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice  
HB 2080 – Written Testimony Only  
January 31, 2013

Chairman Rubin and Members of the Committee:

The Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence (KCSDV) is a statewide non-profit organization whose membership is the 29 sexual and domestic violence programs serving survivors and their children across the state.

KCSDV supports the amendments proposed in HB 2080 to K.S.A. 2012 Supp. 21-5807; specifically, the addition of the crime of violation of a protective order as part of the definition of burglary, and the addition of the crimes of domestic battery and stalking to the definition of “specified offense.” Adding these crimes to the burglary statute help to address the prevalence and dynamics of domestic violence, stalking, and protection order violations that happen each year in Kansas.

In 2011, 24,159 incidents of domestic violence were reported to law enforcement in Kansas. Of those, 13,478, or about 56% of those incidents resulted in an arrest. Also in 2011, 8,238 Protection from Abuse orders were filed, and 5,202 Protection from Stalking orders were filed. 1,167 protective order violations and 777 stalking offenses were charged. Many incidents are never reported or charged.

Domestic violence often continues even after a victim separates from or tries to get away from the perpetrator. Home break-ins are common experiences for victims of domestic violence and stalking. Increasing the connections between these crimes and burglary may lead to higher numbers of reports, arrests, and charges filed for these crimes, which may better protect victims in our communities.

Submitted by,

Joyce Grover  
Executive Director