



**Kansas Association of
Chiefs of Police**

PO Box 780603
Wichita, KS 67278
(316)733-7301



**Kansas Sheriffs
Association**

PO Box 1122
Pittsburg, KS 66762
(620)230-0864



**Kansas Peace Officers
Association**

PO Box 2592
Wichita, KS 67201
(316)722-8433

**Testimony to the Senate Judiciary Committee
In Support of SB41
January 30, 2013**

Chairman King and Committee Members,

The Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police, Kansas Sheriffs Association, and Kansas Peace Officers Association urges your support of SB41. This bill will amend a sentencing provision put in place at our request several years ago. The purpose of this sentencing provision is to reduce the presence of firearms during illegal drug activity. Its effectiveness lies in the provision applying to the presence of firearms possessed by the participants of the criminal conduct regardless of whether the firearm is *used* during the commission of the criminal activity.

The bill proposes simply changing the term from “carried a firearm to commit a drug felony” to “possessed a firearm during the commission of, or in furtherance of, a drug felony.” The courts are seeing a vast difference in this terminology and the change will better codify the original intent of the provision. The proposed change will also include attempts and conspiracies to commit drug felonies.

This bill is the proposal of the prosecutors and our associations strongly support their recommendations. We urge you to recommend this bill favorably for passage.

Ed Klumpp
Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police, Legislative Committee Chair
Kansas Sheriffs Association, Legislative Liaison
Kansas Peace Officers Association, Legislative Liaison
E-mail: eklumpp@cox.net
Cell: (785) 640-1102