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Testimony to the Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee In Support of SB282 January 24, 2018

Chair Schmidt and Committee Members:

Our associations strongly support SB282 making modifications in the drug schedules. These modifications are the culmination of a great deal of work by the Board of Pharmacy, our crime labs, law enforcement agencies, and many other interested organizations.

For law enforcement, these schedule revisions are critical in keeping up with illicit drug manufacturing and trafficking trends aimed at putting dangerous compounds on the street. This year, among other things, we are trying to keep ahead of the purge of opioid related compounds we are seeing in the illicit drug trade. The KBI testimony has explained in detail what these are and why each is needed. We support that information which the KBI has compiled from the crime lab experts.

In addition to the opioid problem, we continue to fight the designer drugs we find in our state. These drugs are modifications designed to circumvent the current detailed chemical descriptions found in the schedules. Keeping up with these new innovations by those putting harmful drugs in the hands of our children and families is critical to public safety.

Kansas is fortunate to have the close working relationship between the medical, pharmacy, treatment providers, law enforcement, and crime lab professions. It is through these efforts we will minimize the impact of dangerous drug trends in our state. But it can only happen with your support, including passing this bill favorably.

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