



KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF COURT SERVICES OFFICERS

House Corrections and Juvenile Justice Committee
Hon. J. Russell Jennings, Chairman

February 6, 2019 – 1:30 PM
Room 152 S

Chris Esquibel, President for Kansas Association of Court Services Officers (KACSO)
cesquibel@wycokck.org

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION OF HB 2052 Allowing earned discharge credit for people on probation

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and this honorable committee for extending the opportunity to provide written comments in opposition to HB 2052. I am Chris Esquibel and I am the current President for Kansas Association of Court Services Officers (KACSO) and a Court Services Officer in the 29th Judicial District in Wyandotte County. The Kansas Association of Court Services Officers (KACSO) represents over 340 officers across Kansas.

HB 2052 is related to allowing earned discharge credit for people on probation. KACSO opposes HB 2052 for the following reasons:

- Currently most districts request early closure if an individual is doing well and has completed all conditions.
 - It does not require a hearing, simply paperwork signed by the Judge and DA.
This bill creates an unnecessary hearing.
- Most CSO's don't take defendants past 12 months of supervision, closing early within the 12-month period.
- Additional burden on the Defendant by requiring them to miss work for another court date and increase their attorneys' fees on a matter that is routinely handled in office.
- Dockets and hearings will increase dramatically.

The mission of the Kansas Association of Court Services Officers is to challenge, educate, support and advocate for the membership by promoting fellowship and professionalism, providing relevant training opportunities and maintaining communication with all members. The organization will further this mission by encouraging collaboration with our Court Services Officers and professional organizations and by recognizing member excellence.

An American Probation and Parole Association Affiliate

- Increased administrative burden - CSO's will spend more time, possibly days, with higher caseloads, on additional paper work which would take away from the case supervision.

KACSO thanks the committee for allowing us to provide testimony on HB2052. To reiterate our concerns, we oppose this unnecessary measure that would increase hearings and court time for both our members, the courts, the prosecutor and the defendant; increase costs and administrative burden; while the majority of districts have policies in place to release people early currently.

If you should have any question please email me at cesquibel@wycokck.org.

KACSO



Chris Esquibel
KACSO President

The mission of the Kansas Association of Court Services Officers is to challenge, educate, support and advocate for the membership by promoting fellowship and professionalism, providing relevant training opportunities and maintaining communication with all members. The organization will further this mission by encouraging collaboration with our Court Services Officers and professional organizations and by recognizing member excellence.

An American Probation and Parole Association Affiliate