

State of Kansas  
House of Representatives

STATE CAPITOL  
300 S.W. TENTH AVENUE  
ROOM 452-S  
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612  
785 296-7371  
pam.curtis@house.ks.gov



322 N. 16TH STREET  
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66102  
913-626-0404

**PAM CURTIS**  
32ND DISTRICT

House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice

Testimony on HB 2279

Pam Curtis, Kansas House of Representatives District 32

February 20, 2019

Chairman Jennings and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 2279. Representative Ponka-We Victors and I introduced this legislation to enhance the notification process for victims of domestic violence.

When there is a domestic violence call, and the offender is arrested, this bill would require law enforcement to inform victims of the earliest possible time of release from custody of the offender. This will assist victims in knowing how much time they have to take care of matters before the offender is released. Providing them with that information could help them get to safety in time and prevent additional confrontation.

The VINE notification system, which is widely used, does provide notification upon release of custody to victims that sign up. The gap that we are attempting to address in HB 2279 is the victim knowing how much time they have between the time of arrest and release.

HB 2279 provides that when an arrest is made in a domestic violence call, law enforcement officials would have to inform the victim of the earliest time the offender could be released from custody. It also has a provision for a 72 hour no contact if the person arrested is being bonded out for a person felony or a person misdemeanor. Furthermore, the bill requires that information be provided of any services that are available to track the custody status of the offender.

Thank you Mr. Chairman and members of the committee for hearing HB 2279 and for allowing me to testify in support of this bill.