



State of Kansas

Office of Judicial Administration

Kansas Judicial Center

301 SW 10th

Topeka, Kansas 66612-1507

(785) 296-2256

January 24, 2019

Senate Judiciary

Testimony in Support of
Senate Bill 19 – Authorizing certain entities access to
a criminal defendant's presentence investigation report

Chris Mechler, Court Services Specialist
Office of Judicial Administration

Chairman Wilborn and members of the committee, thank you for allowing me to appear today to testify in support of Senate Bill 19, which would extend access to the confidential portion of a presentence investigation report to Community Correctional Services and any other entity required to receive the information under the interstate compact for adult offender supervision.

K.S.A. 21-6813(c) provides a list of people and entities that may receive confidential information within a presentence investigation report. Community Corrections is not listed. This issue has been discussed with Community Corrections, the Kansas Department of Corrections, the Kansas Sentencing Commission, and our court services officers and all report agreement that the information should be made available to Community Corrections when it is assigned to supervise an offender. The same is true for any other entity that may be assigned to supervise an offender under the interstate compact for adult offender supervision.

Currently, the Kansas Sentencing Commission has implemented a temporary solution by adding a checkbox to the standard journal entry that permits Community Corrections access to the information when it is assigned to supervise an offender. However, the preferred solution is a clarifying statutory amendment.

Thank you allowing me to testify today and for your consideration of this bill. I'm happy to answer any questions you may have.