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Testimony to the House Corrections and Juvenile Justice Committee **Opposing HB2147**

February 10, 2021

Our associations oppose HB2147 based on the following concerns.

The bill proposes allowing release from prison for any criminal convicted of a severity level 2 through 5 drug crime, as either the sole conviction or the primary conviction after serving 50 % of their sentence.

Severity level 2 and 3 crimes can be distribution of significant amounts of drugs, those in the second and third of four tiers of quantities used to determine severity levels.

Drug severity level 2 also includes:

- Manufacturing a controlled substance [KSA 21-5703]
- Conducting financial transactions involving proceeds of drug crimes of \$250,000-\$500,000. [KSA 21-5716]
- Distributing drugs on school grounds [KSA 21-5705(d)(3)(A) and (d)(5)]

Drug severity level 3 also includes:

- Conducting financial transactions involving proceeds of drug crimes of \$100,000-\$250,000. [KSA 21-5716]
- Distributing drugs on school grounds [KSA 21-5705(d)(3)(A), (d)(2)(A), or (d)(1)(A) and (d)(5)

Drug severity level 4 also includes:

- Conducting financial transactions involving proceeds of drug crimes of \$5,000-\$100,000. [KSA 21-5716]
- Distributing drug paraphernalia to a minor [KSA 21-5710(b)]
- Distributing drug paraphernalia on school property [KSA 21-5710(b)]

Drug severity level 5 also includes:

- Conducting financial transactions involving proceeds of drug crimes of up to \$5,000. [KSA 21-5716]
- Distributing drug paraphernalia to a minor [KSA 21-5710(c)]
- Distributing drug paraphernalia on school property [KSA 21-5710(c)]

We also question why an offender released from prison would be assigned to community corrections instead of to parole and what impact that will have on case loads to community corrections.

Ed Klumpp Legislative Liaison