

MINUTES OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON CORRECTIONS REFORM AND OVERSIGHT

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Thomas C. Owens at 11:45 A.M. on February 22, 2008 in Room 431-N of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Athena Andaya, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Jerry Donaldson, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Jarod Waltner, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Michael Steiner, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Jill Wolters Revisor of Statutes Office
Jason Thompson, Revisor of Statutes Office
Cyndie Rexer, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

James J. Costello, PhD - Assistant Professor of Counselor Education and Rehabilitation Programs,
Emporia State University
Dalyn Schmitt, Executive Director/CEO Heartland Regional Alcohol & Drug Assessment Center

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman Owens opened the floor for testimony on HB 2879. Dr. James Costello explained the assessment typically done on DUI offenders. Addiction demands effective, individualized, multidisciplinary and multi-system approaches to treatment, with long-term outcomes as the only acceptable goal. Dr. Costello points out there is no evidence that supports reduction in risk after incarceration. This bill does not address the illness of the individual and believes incarcerating and withdrawing the offender from the community makes little sense. (Attachment 1)

Dalyn Schmitt testified on the statistics resulting from the implementation of SB 67. She believes HB 2879 lacks consideration of individual differences and clinical interventions, such as whether the offender has co-occurring mental health issues, traumatic brain injury, or cognitive impairment. Mrs. Schmitt would suggest that consideration be given to begin intervening earlier with DUI offenders at perhaps the 2nd or 3rd offense. (Attachment 2 & 3)

A period of questions and answers followed.

Rep. Johnson moved to strike the provisions of SB 214 and insert the provisions of HB 2879 into SB214. Rep. Dahl seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting will be Monday, February 25, 2008 at 11:30 a.m. in Room 527-S.

The meeting was recessed at 1:15 p.m. to continue the hearing at a later meeting.