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**Testimony to the House Judiciary Committee
In Support of SB81
March 11, 2013**

Chairman Kinzer and Committee Members,

SB81 is a trailer bill for a bill passed last year that protects open public access to home addresses of several criminal justice professionals including law enforcement officers. While the bill last year was not our bill, our associations strongly supported it. The bill passed last year met some problems in practical application by public entities.

Our testimony is directed toward, and in support of, the amendments in subsections (51) and (52) starting on page 7, line 22 and ending on page 8, line 7. We are not addressing subsection (53) on page 8, lines 8-15 simply because it was not a provision we sought, not because we are opposed to it in any way. We want to leave that discussion to the parties seeking the change.

The purpose of the law passed last year is to make it more difficult for people with bad intentions to readily access the home address of public safety officials. This is a problem we occasionally face when people show up at an officer's home intimidating the officer or the officer's family in retaliation of actions taken against the individual. While this law will not stop this action, it will make it more difficult and hopefully drive the person to a face-to-face request for the information rather than the anonymity of accessing it via the internet.

Over the interim, a group of interested parties from the various groups affected by the new law met to discuss the difficulties being faced with implementation of the new law. Through those discussions we agreed on the language in SB81.

To be clear, the revisions in SB81 do not go as far as the law passed last year goes in protecting the target information. However, we believe the amendments are reasonable and it is important to us to retain this law in some form. Therefore we strongly support the provisions as presented in the House committee amendments to subsection (51) and (52) of the bill.

The Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police, the Kansas Sheriffs Association and the Kansas Peace Officers Association encourage you to recommend SB81 favorably for passage.

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