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**SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE**  
**Senator Rick Wilborn, Chairman**

**KANSAS SENTENCING COMMISSION**  
**Scott M. Schultz, Executive Director**  
**March 14, 2017**

**Proponent Testimony – HB 2084**

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in favor of this legislation on behalf of the Kansas Sentencing Commission (KSSC). This bill is a product of nine proposals the 17-member Commission considered and now recommends to you for your support this session. It is the statutory charge of the Commission to recommend solutions to maintain the sentencing guidelines and further public safety by supporting the incarceration of the most violent offenders in the state's criminal justice system.

To that end, this bill would amend the Commission's enabling statute in K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 74-9101 by adding subsection (b)(23), which establishes that unless otherwise prohibited by law, all state agencies shall provide any data or information requested by the Commission to carry out its duties and functions.

The Commission from time to time enters into agreements with other state agencies to compile and analyze data to assist in carrying out its mission. These are normally completed by Memorandum of Agreements. Codifying the ability of the KSSC to request data from other state agencies would realize efficiencies in data sharing and further promote more comprehensive available data for the KSSC to provide to its stakeholders, including the Legislature.

I appreciate your time and attention to the Kansas Sentencing Commission testimony, ask for your support of the legislation, and would be happy to answer questions. Thank you.