



Kansas State Lodge

Fraternal Order of Police

Testimony to the
House Committee on Judiciary
Senate Bill 419
Casey Slaughter, President
Kansas State Lodge Fraternal Order of Police
March 15, 2022

Chair Patton, Vice Chair Ralph, Ranking Member Carmichael and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to offer written testimony in support of Senate Bill 419.

The Kansas State Lodge Fraternal Order of Police stands alongside the Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC) in support of this bill.

The bill amends K.S.A. 74-5602(g) by including the Special Agents of the Enforcement, Apprehension and Investigations (EAI) division of KDOC the other police officer or law enforcement officers listed in this statute. This is necessary so that those KDOC employees may attend the law enforcement training center, or any training school certified pursuant to K.S.A. 74-5604a, and training courses provided by the same. The bill also allows the Secretary of Corrections to designate, with the consent of the Director of Police Training at the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center (KLETC), an employee who is not a Special Agent to attend these trainings.

This is an important law enforcement officer safety and public safety bill. EAI staff are responsible for the safe apprehension of absconders from parole supervision in our communities and partner with local, county, state and federal law enforcement agencies on fugitive task forces across Kansas. KDOC Agents also conduct criminal investigations alongside state and local law enforcement. Today, KDOC staff do not receive the same training in investigations, tactics, searches, and law as all other Kansas law enforcement officers. It is important to authorize more uniform training.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.