



# Kansas Sheriffs' Association

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**Testimony to the Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development  
In Opposition to HB2182- Development of an Industrial Hemp Industry  
February 15, 2017**

Chairman Mason and Committee Members,

The Kansas Sheriff's Association submits testimony in opposition to HB2182.

In proposed HB2182, the language is basically legalizing marijuana and the Kansas Sheriff's Association is not supportive of this measure.

Currently, individuals grow marijuana in the State of Colorado for these purposes. The law enforcement officials in the State of Colorado cannot enforce the THC levels, the individual growing marijuana or how much is sold. Thus, law enforcement officials in the State of Kansas have seen a substantial growth in arrests for the possession and sale of Colorado grown marijuana.

The second reason the Kansas Sheriff's Association is not supportive of this bill, is due to Federal Law. Currently, it is against Federal Law to grow, distribute or use marijuana. This bill would put law enforcement in a precarious situation. Law enforcement takes an oath to uphold the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America as well as the Constitution and laws of the State of Kansas. This bill would make it legal to grow and distribute marijuana in the State of Kansas, however, would be against the law according to Federal Code.

The Kansas Sheriff's Association is opposed to HB2182 in its entirety.

Thank you for allowing this opportunity to provide testimony on this bill.

Sheriff Jeffrey T. Easter  
Legislative Chair for the Kansas Sheriff's Association