

Kansas Department of

# Social and Rehabilitation Services

Don Jordan, Secretary

**Senate Public Health And Welfare Committee**

February 28, 2007

**Senate Bill 354 - Alcohol and Drug Statute Revision**

**Division of Health Care Policy  
Ray Dalton, Deputy Secretary**

For additional information contact:

Public and Governmental Services Division

Kyle Kessler, Deputy Secretary

Docking State Office Building  
915 SW Harrison, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor North

Topeka, Kansas 66612-1570

phone: 785.296.0141

fax: 785.296.4685

[www.srskansas.org](http://www.srskansas.org)

**Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services  
Don Jordan, Secretary**

Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee  
February 28, 2007

**Senate Bill 354 - Alcohol and Drug Statute Revision**

Chairman Barnett and members of the Committee, I am Ray Dalton, Deputy Secretary of Health Care Policy with SRS. I appreciate the opportunity to appear before you today in support of SB 354.

This is a technical bill which will clean up and merge Chapter 65 Public Health, Article 40 (Alcoholism and Intoxication Treatment, introduced in 1972) and Article 46 (Drug Abuse Treatment Facilities, introduced in 1976) to accurately reflect the current language utilized by the alcohol and drug field. This bill is not intended to have a policy or fiscal impact on SRS, consumers or stakeholders.

Before 1981, there were two sections within SRS , one that addressed alcohol and one that dealt with drug abuse. The primary reason for this separation was due to different federal funding streams. In 1981, the two sections within SRS were integrated. Funding streams also became integrated. Since that time, alcohol and drug abuse has been treated as one issue.

The primary changes contained in the bill are as follows:

- the separate drug and alcohol statutes were merged,
- language pertaining to alcoholics and intoxicated persons was replaced with persons with alcohol or other drug addiction,
- the reinstatement of definitions previously repealed (similar to SB 11).

We support the bill and ask that it be acted on favorably by the Committee.

I would be happy to answer any questions from the Committee.