

Testimony on HB 2099  
to  
The House Committee on Education

By Ray Roberts  
Secretary  
Kansas Department of Corrections  
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The Department of Corrections supports HB 2099. HB 2099 permits questionnaires and surveys of students in kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade regarding beliefs or practices pertaining to sex, family life, morality or religion provided the parents or guardians have the ability to opt out and the results of the questionnaire or survey are reported only as aggregate data. Further, such questionnaire or survey does not record, request, or solicit a student to provide any personally identifiable student data. Finally, it should be noted that each student is informed that participation in such questionnaire or survey is voluntary. The Communities That Care (CTC) youth survey is one such questionnaire or survey instrument that meets all of these criteria.

The department believes that an understanding of the nature and prevalence of issues, challenges and threats confronting youth is important in assessing the need and effectiveness of programs that prevent or rehabilitate criminal behavior committed by youth or perpetrated against them. HB 2099 provides the foundation for data driven policies and programs that serve and protect the youth of the state while protecting their privacy and ability to not participate if they so choose.