

1 RESOLUTION NO. 7760

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3 A RESOLUTION introduced by Councilmembers Jeff Preisner, John Nave and Clark
4 Duffy concerning the need for legislation that will protect children and
5 their families from sex offenders.

6 WHEREAS, protecting children is our first and most sacred obligation as members
7 of the human species and public safety is the first obligation of government; and

8 WHEREAS, there is a growing population of over a half million registered sex
9 offenders released into our communities throughout the United States, representing a
10 clear and present danger to our children; and

11 WHEREAS, laws regarding the criminal punishment and long-term correctional
12 supervision of sexual offenders are primarily the responsibility of state government; and

13 WHEREAS, monitoring convicted sexual offenders who have been released into
14 our communities should not be the primary responsibility of ordinary citizens, who are
15 neither trained nor prepared for such a burden, nor insured against liability for
16 consequences should they attempt the task; and

17 WHEREAS, requiring released sexual offenders to maintain their names and
18 addresses on a Registry — even when such a Registry is available to the general public
19 and compliance is enforced through Globally Positioning Satellite or other technologies—
20 is in no way equivalent to professional surveillance and meaningful, court-ordered
21 restrictions.

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
23 TOPEKA, KANSAS, that the City of Topeka, Kansas hereby expresses its strong

24 conviction that individuals convicted of sexual crimes against children should be
25 incarcerated in the state prison, and that they should only be released into our
26 communities as a last resort. However, in order to safeguard Kansas children and families
27 in the event that individuals known to be dangerous to children are released into our
28 communities, we call upon the Kansas legislature to take swift legislative action to enact
29 laws that accomplish the following:

- 30 1. Enact laws that protect communities by requiring longer prison sentences
31 for those convicted of sexual crimes.
- 32 2. Ensure that no person convicted of a first-time sexual crime against a child
33 shall be released into our communities unless he is under intensive parole
34 or probation supervision for a minimum of ten (10) years, in addition to
35 being required to register as a sex offender.
- 36 3. Ensure that no person convicted of a repeat sexual crime against a child
37 shall be released into our communities unless he is under lifetime intensive
38 parole or probation supervision, in addition to being required to register as a
39 sex offender.
- 40 4. Provide funding that will ensure appropriate levels of intensive probation or
41 parole supervision for every sexual offender released into our communities.
42 "Intensive probation or parole supervision" shall include highly-specialized
43 officers, well-trained in the surveillance and containment of sex offenders,
44 without additional responsibilities for supervising non-sex offenders.

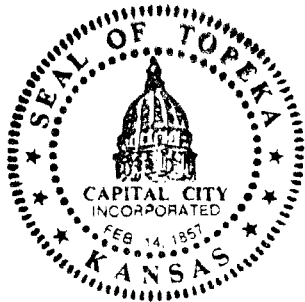
45 Caseloads shall be lower than standard probation or parole caseloads. The
46 legislature's intent shall be clear that the failure of individual offenders to
47 comply with parole or probation conditions shall not be construed as a
48 failure of the supervision program.

49 5. Ensure that adequate state funding is made available for services that will
50 assist victims of sexual crimes in recovering from the trauma inflicted upon
51 them.

52 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon passage of this Resolution, the City
53 Manager is hereby directed to mail the Resolution to the Governor and members of the
54 Shawnee County legislative delegation.

55 ADOPTED and APPROVED by the City Council FEB 28 2006.

56 CITY OF TOPEKA, KANSAS



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William W. Bunten

William W. Bunten, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Iris E. Walker

Iris E. Walker, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY
DATE 2/28/06 BY [Signature]