

SESSION OF 2024

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2522

As Amended by House Committee on
Corrections and Juvenile Justice

Brief*

HB 2522, as amended, would require the Secretary of Corrections (Secretary) to prepare inmates for release from custody by assisting with gathering identification documentation and providing records of the inmate's education and work while in custody.

The bill would require the Secretary and all State agencies to coordinate to implement the provisions of the bill. Further, the bill would specify its documentation provisions do not apply to inmates who are to be released to another jurisdiction on a warrant or detainer or who are physically or mentally unable to return to the workforce upon release, as determined by the Secretary.

Citizenship Documentation

The bill would require the Secretary, within nine months of release, to determine whether an inmate has current versions of certain identification documentation. Specifically, the Secretary must determine whether the inmate's documentation includes a certified copy of the inmate's birth certificate and Social Security card or replacement Social Security card. If any documentation is determined to be missing or unavailable, the Secretary would be required to make reasonable efforts to provide any such documentation to the inmate.

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

Other Documentation

Additionally, the bill would require the Secretary to provide each inmate with:

- A Kansas nondriver's identification card; and
- Certain Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC) records, if applicable, including:
 - Vocational training record;
 - Work record;
 - Any educational certificate or diplomas received by the inmate; and
 - A resume that includes any trade or skills learned by the inmate.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice at the request of Representative Owens.

House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice

In the House Committee hearing, the Secretary of Corrections provided **proponent** testimony. The Secretary stated KDOC has made it a policy to assist inmates in obtaining the documents covered by the bill, and providing opportunities for residents to reenter society as fully-engaged citizens is key to reducing recidivism.

No other testimony was provided.

The House Committee amended the bill to direct the Secretary to provide inmates with a nondriver's identification card rather than an identification certificate for the purpose of obtaining a replacement driver's license.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, KDOC estimates additional State General Fund expenditures of \$418,502 in FY 2025 and \$423,208 in FY 2026, as well as the creation of 4.0 FTE positions.

Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of the bill is not reflected in the *FY 2025 Governor's Budget Report*.

Department of Corrections; inmate release; nondriver's identification; birth certificate; Social Security card