Session of 2024

SENATE BILL No. 442

By Committee on Judiciary

2-1

 AN ACT concerning court services officers; relating to persons found not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect; prohibiting supervision by court services officers; amending K.S.A. 22-3428 and repealing the existing section.

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

7 Section 1. K.S.A. 22-3428 is hereby amended to read as follows: 22-8 3428. (a) (1) When a defendant is acquitted and the jury answers in the 9 affirmative to the special question asked pursuant to K.S.A. 22-3221, and 10 amendments thereto, the defendant shall be committed to the state security 11 hospital or an appropriate secure facility for safekeeping and treatment and 12 the prosecuting attorney shall provide victim notification. A finding of not 13 guilty and the jury answering in the affirmative to the special question 14 asked pursuant to K.S.A. 22-3221, and amendments thereto, shall be prima facie evidence that the acquitted defendant is presently likely to cause 15 16 harm to self or others.

(2) Within 90 days of the defendant's admission, the chief medical 17 officer of the state security hospital or licensed psychologist at the 18 19 appropriate secure facility shall send to the court a written evaluation 20 report. Upon receipt of the report, the court shall set a hearing to determine 21 whether or not the defendant is currently a mentally ill person. The hearing 22 shall be held within 30 days after the receipt by the court of the chief 23 medical officer's report unless the court finds that exceptional 24 circumstances warrant delay of the hearing.

25 (3) The court shall give notice of the hearing to the chief medical 26 officer of the state security hospital or licensed psychologist at the 27 appropriate secure facility, the prosecuting attorney, the defendant and the 28 defendant's attorney. The prosecuting attorney shall provide victim 29 notification. The court shall inform the defendant that such defendant is 30 entitled to counsel and that counsel will be appointed to represent the 31 defendant if the defendant is not financially able to employ an attorney as 32 provided in K.S.A. 22-4503 et seq., and amendments thereto. The 33 defendant shall remain at the state security hospital pending the hearing.

34 (4) At the hearing, the defendant shall have the right to present
35 evidence and cross-examine witnesses. At the conclusion of the hearing, if
36 the court finds by clear and convincing evidence that the defendant is not

currently a mentally ill person, the court shall dismiss the criminal
 proceeding and discharge the defendant, otherwise the court may commit
 the defendant to the state security hospital or an appropriate secure facility
 for treatment or may place the defendant on conditional release pursuant to
 subsection (d). The prosecuting attorney shall provide victim notification
 regarding the outcome of the hearing.

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(b) Subject to the provisions of subsection (c):

8 (1) Whenever it appears to the chief medical officer of the state 9 security hospital or a licensed psychologist at the appropriate secure 10 facility that a person committed under subsection (a)(4) is not likely to cause harm to other persons in a less restrictive hospital environment, the 11 12 officer may transfer the person to any state hospital, subject to the 13 provisions of subsection (c). At any time subsequent thereto during which 14 such person is still committed to a state hospital, if the chief medical 15 officer of that hospital or the licensed psychologist at the appropriate 16 secure facility finds that the person may be likely to cause harm or has 17 caused harm, to others, such officer may transfer the person back to the 18 state security hospital.

(2) Any person committed under subsection (a)(4) may be grantedconditional release or discharge as an involuntary patient.

21 (c) Before transfer of a person from the state security hospital or 22 appropriate secure facility pursuant to subsection (b)(1) or conditional 23 release or discharge of a person pursuant to subsection (b)(2), the chief 24 medical officer of the state security hospital or the state hospital where the 25 patient is under commitment or the licensed psychologist at the appropriate secure facility shall give notice to the district court of the 26 27 county from which the person was committed that transfer of the patient is 28 proposed or that the patient is ready for proposed conditional release or discharge. Such notice shall include, but not be limited to: (1) 29 30 Identification of the patient; (2) the course of treatment; (3) a current 31 assessment of the defendant's mental illness; (4) recommendations for 32 future treatment, if any; and (5) recommendations regarding conditional 33 release or discharge, if any. Upon receiving notice, the district court shall 34 order that a hearing be held on the proposed transfer, conditional release or 35 discharge. The court shall give notice of the hearing to the appropriate 36 secure facility, state hospital or state security hospital where the patient is 37 under commitment, to the prosecuting attorney of the county from which 38 the person was originally ordered committed. The prosecuting attorney 39 shall provide victim notification regarding the hearing. The court shall 40 order the involuntary patient to undergo a mental evaluation by a person 41 designated by the court. A copy of all orders of the court shall be sent to 42 the involuntary patient and the patient's attorney. The report of the court 43 ordered mental evaluation shall be given to the prosecuting attorney, the

1 involuntary patient and the patient's attorney at least seven days prior to 2 the hearing. The hearing shall be held within 30 days after the receipt by 3 the court of the chief medical officer's notice unless the court finds that 4 exceptional circumstances warrant delay of the hearing. The involuntary 5 patient shall remain in the appropriate secure facility, state hospital or state 6 security hospital where the patient is under commitment until the hearing 7 on the proposed transfer, conditional release or discharge is to be held. At 8 the hearing, the court shall receive all relevant evidence, including the 9 written findings and recommendations of the chief medical officer of the 10 state security hospital or the state hospital or the licensed psychologist of the appropriate secure facility where the patient is under commitment, and 11 12 shall determine whether the patient shall be transferred to a less restrictive 13 hospital environment or whether the patient shall be conditionally released 14 or discharged. The patient shall have the right to present evidence at such 15 hearing and to cross-examine any witnesses called by the prosecuting 16 attorney. At the conclusion of the hearing, if the court finds by clear and 17 convincing evidence that the patient will not be likely to cause harm to self or others if transferred to a less restrictive hospital environment, the court 18 19 shall order the patient transferred. If the court finds by clear and 20 convincing evidence that the patient is not currently a mentally ill person, 21 the court shall order the patient discharged or conditionally released; 22 otherwise, the court shall order the patient to remain in the state security 23 hospital or state hospital where the patient is under commitment. If the 24 court orders the conditional release of the patient in accordance with 25 subsection (d), the court may order as an additional condition to the release 26 that the patient continue to take prescribed medication and report as 27 directed to a person licensed to practice medicine and surgery to determine 28 whether or not the patient is taking the medication or that the patient 29 continue to receive periodic psychiatric or psychological treatment. The 30 prosecuting attorney shall notify any victims of the outcome of the 31 hearing.

32 (d) In order to ensure the safety and welfare of a patient who is to be 33 conditionally released and the citizenry of the state, the court may allow 34 the patient to remain in custody at a facility under the supervision of the 35 secretary for aging and disability services or the head of the appropriate secure facility for a period of time not to exceed 45 days in order to permit 36 37 sufficient time for the secretary to prepare recommendations to the court 38 for a suitable reentry program for the patient and allow adequate time for 39 the prosecuting attorney to provide victim notification. The reentry 40 program shall be specifically designed to facilitate the return of the patient to the community as a functioning, self-supporting citizen, and may 41 42 include appropriate supportive provisions for assistance in establishing 43 residency, securing gainful employment, undergoing needed vocational 1 rehabilitation, receiving marital and family counseling, and such other 2 outpatient services that appear beneficial. If a patient who is to be 3 conditionally released will be residing in a county other than the county 4 where the district court that ordered the conditional release is located, the 5 court shall transfer venue of the case to the district court of the other 6 county and send a copy of all of the court's records of the proceedings to 7 the other court. In all cases of conditional release the court shall:

8 (1) Order that the patient be placed under the temporary supervision 9 of district court probation and parole services, community treatment 10 facility or any appropriate private agency, *except that the patient shall not* 11 *be placed under the supervision of a court services officer*; and

12 (2) require as a condition precedent to the release that the patient 13 agree in writing to waive extradition in the event a warrant is issued 14 pursuant to K.S.A. 22-3428b, and amendments thereto.

15 (e) At any time during the conditional release period, a conditionally 16 released patient, through the patient's attorney, or the prosecuting attorney 17 of the county where the district court having venue is located may file a 18 motion for modification of the conditions of release, and the court shall 19 hold an evidentiary hearing on the motion within 14 days of its filing. The 20 court shall give notice of the time for the hearing to the patient and the 21 prosecuting attorney. If the court finds from the evidence at the hearing 22 that the conditional provisions of release should be modified or vacated, it 23 shall so order. If at any time during the transitional period the designated 24 medical officer or supervisory personnel or the treatment facility informs 25 the court that the patient is not satisfactorily complying with the provisions 26 of the conditional release, the court, after a hearing for which notice has 27 been given to the prosecuting attorney and the patient, may make orders: 28 (1) For additional conditions of release designed to effect the ends of the 29 reentry program; (2) requiring the prosecuting attorney to file a petition to 30 determine whether the patient is a mentally ill person as provided in 31 K.S.A. 59-2957, and amendments thereto; or (3) requiring that the patient 32 be committed to the appropriate secure facility, state security hospital or 33 any state hospital. In cases where a petition is ordered to be filed, the court 34 shall proceed to hear and determine the petition pursuant to the care and 35 treatment act for mentally ill persons and that act shall apply to all 36 subsequent proceedings. If a patient is committed to any state hospital 37 pursuant to this act the prosecuting attorney shall provide victim 38 notification. The costs of all proceedings, the mental evaluation and the 39 reentry program authorized by this section shall be paid by the county 40 from which the person was committed.

41 (f) In any case in which the defense that the defendant lacked the 42 required mental state pursuant to K.S.A. 21-5209, and amendments 43 thereto, is relied on, the court shall instruct the jury on the substance of

this section. 1

(g) As used in this section and K.S.A. 22-3428a, and amendments 2 3 thereto:

4 (1) "Likely to cause harm to self or others" means that the person is likely, in the reasonably foreseeable future, to cause substantial physical 5 6 injury or physical abuse to self or others or substantial damage to another's 7 property, or evidenced by behavior causing, attempting or threatening such 8 injury, abuse or neglect. 9

- (2) "Mentally ill person" means any person who:
- (A) Is suffering from a severe mental disorder to the extent that such 10 person is in need of treatment; and 11

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(B) is likely to cause harm to self or others.

"Treatment facility" means any mental health center or clinic, 13 (3)psychiatric unit of a medical care facility, psychologist, physician or other 14 institution or individual authorized or licensed by law to provide either 15 16 inpatient or outpatient treatment to any patient.

- 17 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 22-3428 is hereby repealed.
- Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its 18 19 publication in the statute book.