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**MEMORANDUM**

To: Senate Committee on Judiciary  
From: Office of Revisor of Statutes  
Date: March 16, 2022  
Subject: Bill Brief for HB 2517

House Bill 2517, as amended by House Committee, transfers the responsibility to certify drug abuse treatment providers that participate in the certified drug abuse treatment program from the department of corrections to the Kansas sentencing commission.

Section 1 amends K.S.A. 21-6824, the statute that creates the certified drug abuse treatment program. Subsection (g) is amended to provide that “mental health professional” includes those providers who have been certified by the Kansas sentencing commission, as opposed to the department of corrections, to treat offenders pursuant to K.S.A. 75-52,144.

Section 2 was added to the bill by the House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice. It amends K.S.A. 21-6825, the statute enacted in 2021 that creates the certified drug abuse treatment program for certain persons who enter into a diversion agreement. Subsection (f) is amended to provide that “mental health professional” includes those providers who have been certified by the Kansas sentencing commission, as opposed to the department of corrections, to treat offenders pursuant to K.S.A. 75-52,144.

Finally, Section 3 amends K.S.A. 75-52,144 to change references from the secretary of corrections or the department of corrections to the Kansas sentencing commission. Subsection (b) is amended to provide that the commission may establish a process for revoking certification of programs that do not meet the commission’s qualifications for certification.