

SESSION OF 2004

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2639

As Amended by House Committee on
Corrections and Juvenile Justice

Brief*

HB 2639 expands the crime of traffic in contraband by including juvenile offenders. When the inmate or juvenile offender are outside the correctional institution, the list of contraband items include the following:

- ! alcohol;
- ! tobacco;
- ! controlled substances;
- ! firearms, ammunition, or explosives;
- ! currency not including compensation for deposit in an institutional account;
- ! tools and equipment, except as provided for the individuals approved work assignment;
- ! cellular telephone;
- ! internet access; and
- ! communication equipment or devices other than cellular telephones and internet access, except as required for the inmate or juvenile offender's approved work assignment.

Background

A conferee from the Department of Corrections spoke in favor of the bill. The Commissioner of the Kansas Juvenile Justice Authority submitted written testimony in support of the measure.

The fiscal note indicates that passage of the original bill would require an additional 12 beds in FY 2005 and an additional 29 beds by

*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>

FY 2014. The state correctional system is near capacity. Therefore, if this legislation or the cumulative effect of similar legislation cause an increase in the prison population, additional space could be required. Although a precise fiscal effect cannot be determined, the Department of Corrections indicates it would consider constructing 128-cell living units at the El Dorado Correctional Facility for medium or maximum custody inmates, constructing a cell house at Hutchinson Correctional Facility for medium custody inmates, or leasing additional space from facilities in Groesbeck, Texas. If the bill does not require an expansion of existing space, the additional costs would be approximately \$2,000 per capita for basic support, including food service, and adjustments might have to be made in the health service contract. In addition, the fiscal effect could involve additional resources to cover field supervision caseloads beyond the level that can be supervised by existing staff.