

714 S.W. Jackson St., Suite 300
Topeka, KS 66603



Phone: (785) 296-3317
Fax: (785) 783-6950
Kdoc_pub@ks.gov
www.doc.ks.gov

Jeff Zmuda, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

To: The Honorable Jeff Longbine, Chair
Senate Committee on Financial Institutions and Insurance

From: Jeff Zmuda, Secretary
Kansas Department of Corrections

Date: March 4, 2024

Re: Testimony on Senate Bill 505

Mr. Chairman, Committee, thank you for allowing me to comment on Senate Bill 505, which increases the KPERs retirement benefit multiplier for members who are security officers of the Kansas Department of Corrections.

SB 505 changes the benefit multiplier for KPERs-Correctional members to two percent for any member who retires after July 1, 2024. While the provisions of SB 505 will require some updates to the pension administration system and changes to publications and educational materials, we do not anticipate the impact will require any change to the existing appropriation.

This legislation would positively impact our employees in uniform and those that deal directly with our residents in the facilities on a daily basis. They are valued team members, and the department's success rests on their shoulders.

Thanks to the strong legislative support the Department of Corrections has received over the past few years, we have made a great deal of improvement in our recruiting and retention numbers. That said, I am in favor of any legislation that enhances the benefits to our employees, particularly those who work so closely with our residents.

We support this bill.

Again, I thank you for allowing me to provide written testimony to you today.