

MINUTES

JOINT COMMITTEE ON CORRECTIONS AND JUVENILE JUSTICE OVERSIGHT

March 13, 2012
Room 159-S—Statehouse

Members Present

Senator Pete Brungardt, Chairman
Representative Pat Colloton, Vice-chairperson
Senator David Haley
Senator Dick Kelsey
Senator Kelly Kultala
Senator Jeff Longbine
Senator Tim Owens
Representative Jim Denning
Representative Doug Gatewood
Representative Virgil Peck
Representative Jim Ward

Members Absent

Senator Terry Bruce
Representative Jana Goodman

Staff Present

Lauren Douglass, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Robert Allison-Gallimore, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Connie Burns, Committee Assistant

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Colloton. The first order of business was to elect new officers. Chairperson Colloton opened the meeting for nominations.

Senator David Haley moved to nominate Senator Pete Brungardt as the new Chairperson. Representative Jim Ward seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Representative Doug Gatewood moved to nominate Representative Pat Colloton as the new Vice-chairperson. Senator Jeff Longbine seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Senator David Haley moved to nominate Senator Kelly Kultala as the Ranking Minority member. Representative Pat Colloton seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Representative Pat Colloton moved to approve the minutes from the January 10, 2012, meeting. Senator Jeff Longbine seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Representative Pat Colloton moved to approve the 2012 Interim Committee Report. Senator Dick Kelsey seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chairperson Brungardt opened the meeting for discussion and topics for study in the upcoming interim.

The Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC) requested the Joint Committee examine the following issues (Attachment 1):

- Challenges presented for managing, housing, and treating mentally ill persons within an incarcerated setting;
- Proposed Ellsworth expansion for male inmates;
- Update on restoration of programs following budget cuts and additional programs KDOC hopes to offer;
- Information on the KDOC's Office of Victim Services program for Victim/Offender Dialogue (VOD), which provides victims a chance to begin a conversation with the offender while still housed within a correctional facility; and
- Statutorily required updates on operation of internal programs, including food service, Parole & Community Corrections, and capacity and population.

The Juvenile Justice Authority (JJA) suggested the following topics (Attachment 2):

- Study and recommend appropriate Juvenile Correctional Officer (JCO) staffing to juvenile offender ratios for:
 - Residential living units, and
 - Corrections operations at Kansas Juvenile Correctional Facilities (JCFs);
- Study and recommend offender programming improvements at JCFs;
- Study and recommend appropriate programming and counseling staff to juvenile offender ratios at JCFs;
- Study and recommend curriculum additions and improvements at Westside School and Lawrence Gardner High School with particular emphasis on Career and Technical Training (C-TEC);
- Study impact, if any, on recruitment and retention of JCO given starting wage differential versus marketplace; and
- Study necessity, if any, for legislative action to implement and enforce (a) the recommendations of the Kansas Advisory Group on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (KAG) subcommittee study of the interface of JJA and the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services (SRS), when issued later this year, and (b) separation in residential settings of Juvenile Offenders from Children in Need of Care (CINC) populations.

Chairperson Brungardt stated the number of days to be requested would be six to eight days.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:19 p.m.

Prepared by Connie Burns
Edited by Lauren Douglass

Approved by the Committee on:

June 8, 2012
(Date)