HOUSE BILL No. 2208

By Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice

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AN ACT concerning the commissioner of juvenile justice; powers to establish new community based service alternatives to residential care; new residential services levels; establishment of performance measures; and establishment of payment methodologies.

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

Section 1. (a) In order to ensure the most effective and efficient juvenile justice services are delivered in Kansas, the commissioner of juvenile justice may establish new and innovative community based programming as an alternative to residential care for juvenile offenders.

- (b) In order to improve the efficacy and efficiency of the residential service system for juvenile offenders and to ensure their criminogenic needs are addressed, the commissioner of juvenile justice may establish new standards, performance-based outcomes and payment methodologies for residential services.
- (c) The commissioner as part of changing any existing program or establishing new programming may:
- (1) Establish performance measures and standards for each community based service, which include admission and discharge criteria and appropriate lengths of service;
- (2) establish contractual reporting timelines for data to be submitted related to performance measures to be collected from each contracted provider. Data shall be collected not less than quarterly;
- (3) establish mechanisms for the longitudinal reporting and tracking of youth to determine both short and long term efficacy of the programs;
- (4) establish evidence-based practices or cognitive behavioral interventions which may be required to be provided by the program;
- (5) require the use of an evidence-based screening or assessment tool for youth to be eligible for any service; and
- (6) establish requirements that are more stringent than the licensing standards used by the department of health and environment to be a contract provider.
- (d) Performance measures shall have standard definitions which are established by the commissioner. Performance measures may include, but not be limited to:
 - (1) Recidivism rates of youth served by the program are consistent

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with national best practices;

- (2) youth's educational progress or attainment of a high school diploma, general educational development (GED) certificate, or progress in a career or technical education program;
- (3) measures of safety and welfare of the youth, which may include such things as the number of runaways from the facility, number of reports of abuse or neglect, number of injuries sustained by youth or staff, or other incidents:
- (4) measures of the programs engagement in community activities promoting pro-social relationships such as faith-based programming, opportunities for mentorship, and community service; and
- (5) any measure determined by the commissioner which would demonstrate the efficiency and effectiveness of the program on addressing the needs of juvenile offenders.
- (e) The commissioner may make public and distribute each contract provider's performance related to performance measures.
- Sec. 2. (a) In order to promote evidence-based programmatic delivery specifically targeted to meet juvenile offenders needs, the commissioner of juvenile justice may establish new payment methodologies and payment rates specific to services for juvenile offenders.
- (b) The commissioner may create or utilize payment methodologies related to any service which may include, but not be limited to:
- (1) Tiered payments for service programs serving moderate to high-risk youth;
- (2) payments tied to performance in relationship to achievement of positive performance measures;
 - (3) incentive payments for positive program outcomes;
 - (4) periodic adjustment of payments based upon performance; and
- (5) any other payment methodologies the commissioner deems appropriate.
- (c) The commissioner may create a schedule for changes to payment methodologies or payment rates.
- Sec. 3. The commissioner of juvenile justice shall report to the house committee on corrections and juvenile justice and the senate committee on judiciary at the beginning of the 2014 legislative session the progress that has been made toward establishing new community based services, performance measures, and new payment methodologies.
- Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.