

Good Time Credit; Program Credits; Community Corrections Placements; HB 2051

HB 2051 increases the amount of good time credit an inmate sentenced for a drug severity level 3 crime committed on or after July 1, 2012, may earn, from 15 percent to 20 percent. The bill allows the same inmates to earn program credits and increases the amount of time that may be earned by any eligible inmate for program credits from 60 days to 90 days.

The bill provides immunity for the State, the Secretary of Corrections, and the Secretary's agents and employees for damages caused by negligent or wrongful acts or omissions in making good time or program credit calculations. The bill directs the Secretary to make the good time and program credit calculations authorized by the bill no later than January 1, 2016, and the provisions of the bill are to be construed and applied retroactively.

The bill also amends the list of adult offenders who are eligible to be placed in community correctional services programs to remove placements based on offense classification and expand placements based on the use of a standardized risk assessment tool specified by the Kansas Sentencing Commission. Those offenders who are determined, on or after July 1, 2014, to be moderate- or very-high-risk by this tool will be eligible for placement. (Note: Offenders who are determined to be high-risk by this tool are eligible under previous law.)