

SESSION OF 2021

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2077

As Recommended by House Committee on
Corrections and Juvenile Justice

Brief*

HB 2077 would amend law related to the Kansas Criminal Justice Reform Commission (Commission).

Study Topics

Current law provides that the Commission shall address certain listed topics. The bill would amend some listed topics and would create new topics.

Diversion Programs

The bill would amend the current requirement related to analysis of diversion programs to require that the Commission analyze diversion programs utilized throughout the state and make recommendations for legislation that:

- Requires pre-filing and post-filing diversion be an option in all counties;
- Establishes minimum statewide standards for diversion; and
- Provides a method for sealing or otherwise removing diversion records from criminal records.

*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>

Supervision

The bill would also amend the requirement related to review of supervision levels and programming for offenders on community supervision for felony offenses by requiring the Commission to:

- Review the supervision practices for offenders who serve sentences for felony offenses on supervision, to include:
 - Supervision by court services;
 - Community corrections; and
 - Parole; and
- Discuss and develop detailed recommendations for legislation that establishes research-based standards and practices for all community supervision programs that:
 - Provide for incentives for compliant offenders to earn early discharge from supervision;
 - Create standardized terms and conditions for community supervision and provide for a method that courts may utilize to use special terms as indicated through the introduction of compelling evidence;
 - Create standardized effective responses to behavior through a system of incentives and graduated sanctions; and
 - Provide for a means to consolidate concurrent supervision into one supervision agency.

Removed Study Topics

The bill would remove statutory requirements relating to specialty courts, evidence-based programming, specialty correctional facilities, and information management data systems. The bill would also remove the requirement that the

Commission study other matters it determines to be necessary.

Commission Membership

Current law requires the Commission to be made up of members appointed by certain persons or entities. The bill would add a public defender member to be appointed by the Executive Director of the Board of Indigents' Defense Services.

Final Report

Current law requires the Commission to submit its final report and recommendations by December 1, 2020. The bill would amend that requirement to require the final report and recommendations to be submitted by December 1, 2021.

Technical Amendments

The bill would make technical amendments to remove outdated language requiring members be appointed before August 1, 2019, and language related to calling the first meeting of the Commission during August 2019.

Background

The Commission was created by 2019 HB 2290. The bill designated the membership of the Commission and directed the Commission to study various topics related to criminal justice reform. The Commission was directed to submit a preliminary report, which was submitted to the 2020 Legislature on December 1, 2019; and the Commission was also directed to submit a final report, which was submitted to the 2021 Legislature on December 1, 2020.

House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice at the request of Representative Jennings.

In the House Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was presented by a representative of the Kansas Criminal Justice Reform Commission and a private citizen. Written-only **proponent** testimony was submitted by the Kansas Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and the Kansas Department of Corrections. No other testimony was submitted.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of Budget on the bill, the Kansas Sentencing Commission indicates enactment of the bill may have an impact on prison admissions and bed space, but that this effect cannot be estimated. The current estimated available bed capacity is 9,420 for males and 948 for females. Based upon the Commission's most recent ten-year projection contained in its FY 2020 Adult Inmate Prison Population Projections report, it is estimated that the year-end population for available male capacity will be under capacity by 1,287 inmates in FY 2021 and 1,241 inmates in FY 2022.

The Office of Judicial Administration and the Department of Corrections indicate enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect.

Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2022 Governor's Budget Report*.

Kansas Criminal Justice Reform Commission; public defender