

SESSION OF 2024

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2698

As Recommended by House Committee on
Corrections and Juvenile Justice

Brief*

HB 2698 would authorize the Secretary of Corrections (Secretary) to allow a juvenile in the Secretary's custody to leave a facility for certain specified reasons. These reasons include:

- Employment;
- Job interviews;
- Education;
- Job training;
- Skills development classes or programs;
- Treatment programs; or
- Any community pro-social activity to support risk reduction and reintegration.

The Secretary would be charged with adopting policies and procedures to ensure adequate oversight, supervision, and accountability of these juveniles, as they may also be allowed to leave the facility without being accompanied by a staff member or designated adult.

*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>

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice at the request of a representative of the Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC).

House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice

In the House Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was presented by the KDOC Deputy Secretary of Juvenile and Adult Community-Based Services. The proponent generally stated the bill would allow KDOC to take another step towards providing employment skills and experience to residents of the Kansas Juvenile Corrections Complex, as a majority of the residents will leave the facility eligible for entry into the workforce.

Written-only proponent testimony was submitted by the President and CEO of Jobs for America's Graduates – Kansas and a representative of the Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee.

No other testimony was provided.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, KDOC indicates the bill would likely require some reallocation of staff, but the cost to perform the required duties could be absorbed within existing resources and staff levels. Any fiscal impact is not reflected in the *FY 2025 Governor's Budget Report*.

Juvenile justice; Department of Corrections; workforce; education