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68-West–Statehouse | 300 SW 10th Ave. | Topeka, Kansas 66612-1504
(785) 296-3181

kslegres@klrd.ks.gov https://klrd.gov/

March 9, 2026

To: Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Nicole Hrenchir, Fiscal Analyst

Re: HB 2513 - Claims Against the State

The Joint The Joint Committee on Special Claims Against the State (Joint Committee) recommends payment of claims totaling $6,346, all from the State General Fund (SGF), in FY 2026. All claims are directed to be paid from existing resources and would not increase total state expenditures.

During the 2025 interim, the Joint Committee meet 3 times and heard a total of 57 claims, including 52 claims brought against the Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC) or the correctional facilities. The remaining claims were brought against the State Historical Society, the Board of Nursing, and the Kansas Department of Revenue. Although the Joint Committee has the authority to review claims for motor vehicle fuel tax refunds, no claims of this nature were submitted to the Kansas Department of Revenue.

Of the 57 claims heard, the Joint Committee recommended payment of 8 claims for a total of $6,346.91 SGF to be paid from the agency's existing resources in FY 2026. Of the eight claims, seven were against the KDOC and one was against the State Historical Society.

Section 1

The bill would authorize the following payments to be made in FY 2026.

Section 2

The Joint Committee's recommendation totals $2,980.70 SGF in FY 2026 for the payment of seven claims brought against three correctional facilities.

El Dorado Correctional Facility

Billie Elliot seeks $76.74 in compensation for property loss. Specifically, the claimant alleges staff unfairly confiscated his hobby material, including thread and tape, during a mass shakedown. The agency states the items were considered contraband and the claimant did not provide sufficient documentation to show that those items were in his possession prior to the shakedown. *The Joint Committee recommends full payment of the claim in the amount of $76.74.*

Hutchinson Correctional Facility

Preston Ladd seeks $551.12 in compensation for property loss. Specifically, the claimant alleges staff did not pack his items out in a timely manner, leading to the loss or theft of his television, fan, music player, and extension cord. The agency offered the claimant a settlement of $551.12 that the claimant denied because the payment would be used for unpaid court-ordered restitution. *The Joint Committee recommends full payment of the claim in the amount of $551.12.*

Tremain Thompson seeks $157 in compensation for property loss. Specifically, the claimant alleges his music player, chess set, and hygiene and canteen items were stolen due to the poor condition of the inmate storage lockers. The agency states the claimant did not mention any missing items on his property forms, and the lockers are fully functional and no service order to fix the lockers has been placed. *The Joint Committee recommends full payment of the claim in the amount of $157.*

Rudolph Wallace seeks $79.32 in compensation for property loss. Specifically, the claimant alleges staff left his shoes out after staff told him to remove them, leading to the shoes being stolen. The agency states that the claimant did not note that anything was missing and there was no evidence that the claimant was wearing those shoes at the time of the incident. *The Joint Committee recommends full payment of the claim in the amount of $79.32.*

Isaiah Parker seeks $461.47 in compensation for property loss. Specifically, the claimant alleges staff never returned his television, shoes, cable cord, headphones, sweatshirt, and sweatpants. The agency states the claimant signed his inventory sheet, certifying the document was correct, and did not note any missing items. *The Joint Committee recommends partial payment of the claim in the amount of $175.*

Lansing Correctional Facility

Robert Blaurock seeks $1,789 in compensation for property loss. Specifically, the claimant alleges staff failed to properly secure his items despite the claimant informing them of the impending theft. The agency states video footage does not show residents taking anything from the claimant. *The Joint Committee recommends partial payment of the claim in the amount of $100.*

Cynthia Wiseman (Goodcents Services, LLC) seeks $3,683.04 in compensation for property damage. Specifically, the claimant alleges facility staff, after waving the driver forward, closed a gate on her company truck, causing damage to the vehicle. The agency states the driver did not have permission to enter and rushed the gate. *The Joint Committee recommends partial payment of the claim in the amount of $1,841.52.*

Section 3

State Historical Society

The Joint Committee's recommendation totals $3,366.21 SGF for one claim against the State Historical Society.

Window Design & Remodeling Co. seeks $6,686.83 in compensation for property damage. Specifically, the claimant alleges the company trailer was damaged by building panels that flew off during a storm. The agency acknowledges that staff did fail to adequately secure the panels, though agency video only shows the panels damaging the back corner of the trailer and any other vehicular damage cannot be verified. *The Joint Committee recommends partial payment of the claim in the amount of $3,366.21.*

Section 4

The bill would require each claimant to sign a release prior to payment being issued.

Section 5

The bill would take effect upon publication in the *Kansas Register*.