

SESSION OF 2010

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2505

As Amended by House Committee on
Corrections and Juvenile Justice

Brief*

HB 2505, as amended, would authorize the Kansas Parole Board (KPB), except for those offenders who commit certain sex crimes requiring lifetime parole, to discharge an inmate from parole or conditional release when the inmate has performed the obligations of release for such time as to satisfy the KPB that final release is not incompatible with the best interest of society and the welfare of the individual.

The bill would authorize the KPB to issue a certificate of discharge when an inmate has reached the end of the postrelease supervision period. Such release, and the discharge of an inmate who has served the inmate's term of imprisonment, would have the effect of restoring all civil rights lost because of the imprisonment.

The bill would make it clear that nothing in the bill would impair the power of the Governor to grant a pardon or commutation of sentence in any case.

Background

The Joint Committee on Parole Board Oversight, created with the passage of 2009 HB 2060, recommended the bill for introduction.

The proponent of the bill, as introduced, who testified at the House Committee was the KPB.

*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>

There were no opponents of the bill who testified at the House Committee.

The House Committee amended the bill to make it clear that the KPB would not have the authority to discharge offenders who commit certain sex crimes requiring lifetime parole.

According to the fiscal note on the bill, as introduced, the Kansas Parole Board estimates HB 2505 would increase agency staff time and processing expenses; however, the agency states that any fiscal effect resulting from the bill's enactment could be handled within existing resources. According to the Department of Corrections, HB 2505 could also result in reduced parole service costs from caseload reductions; however, the Department is unable to provide a precise figure because the number of early discharges that would occur under the conditions of the bill is unknown. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2505 is not reflected in *The FY 2011 Governor's Budget Report*.