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MEMORANDUM

To: Senate Committee on Judiciary
From: Office of Revisor of Statutes
Date: March 5, 2024
Subject: Bill Brief for HB 2698

House Bill 2698 allows juvenile offenders in the custody of the secretary of corrections to leave the juvenile correctional facility for certain programming and educational opportunities when approved by the secretary.

The bill amends K.S.A. 75-7062, the statute that gives the secretary of corrections all powers and duties related to juvenile correctional facilities. Current law in subsection (d) prohibits the secretary from issuing a pass, furlough or leave to a juvenile placed in a facility unless needed for such juvenile to obtain medical services or to reintegrate into the community. If the juvenile is issued a pass, furlough or leave, the juvenile is required to be accompanied by a staff member or other designated adult.

The bill authorizes the secretary to allow a juvenile to leave the facility for employment, job interviews, education, job training or skills development classes or programs, treatment programs or any community pro-social activity to support risk reduction and reintegration. The juvenile could be allowed to leave the facility without being accompanied by a staff member. The bill requires the secretary to adopt policies and procedures to ensure adequate oversight, supervision, and accountability of such juveniles.

The bill would take effect from and after publication in the statute book, July 1, 2024.