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**KANSAS OFFICE of**  
**REVISOR of STATUTES**  
**LEGISLATURE of THE STATE of KANSAS**  
*Legislative Attorneys transforming ideas into legislation.*

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**MEMORANDUM**

To: House Committee on Judiciary  
From: Office of Revisor of Statutes  
Date: March 11, 2025  
Subject: Bill Brief for SB 204 (As Amended by Senate Committee of the Whole)

Senate Bill 204 requires case and warrant information to be sealed in criminal and juvenile offender cases.

The bill amends K.S.A. 60-2617, the statutes that provides for sealing or redacting court records or closing a court proceeding. A new subsection (a) would be added to provide that upon the filing of a criminal or juvenile offender case in which an arrest warrant is being sought, the case shall be sealed until such warrant has been executed or the request for such warrant is denied. Further, all subpoenas issued in a criminal or juvenile offender case shall be sealed and shall only be unsealed if the court makes a finding that unsealing such subpoena is in the interest of justice. A definition of "seal" is added which would mean that no information related to a case, warrant or subpoena, including its existence, shall be made available to the public. The new subsection would be applied retroactively to any case or warrant information or subpoenas that are currently pending.

The bill, as amended, provides that the new subsection: (1) Does not prohibit disclosure of warrant information, subpoenas or other case information to law enforcement for the purposes of executing a warrant or serving a subpoena; and (2) does not apply to a warrant issued pursuant to K.S.A. 22-2807, the statute that relates to forfeiture of appearance bonds.

The bill would take effect from and after publication in the statute book, July 1, 2025.