

February 4, 2026

The Honorable Bob Lewis, Chairperson
House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice
300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 546-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Lewis:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2527 by House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2527 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

Under current law, courts may assign defendants convicted of misdemeanors or certain felonies to work release programs that require the defendant to return to confinement at the end of each day. The Secretary of Corrections is also authorized to establish work release and educational release programs under which inmates may be granted the privilege of leaving confinement for paid employment, job training, or education. HB 2527 would prohibit courts from assigning a defendant to a work release program if the defendant's current crime of conviction requires registration as a sex offender or if the defendant has any prior conviction or adjudication of a crime requiring sex offender registration. The bill would also prohibit the Secretary of Corrections from granting an inmate leave from confinement for paid employment, job training, or educational release programs if the inmate is in custody for a crime requiring sex offender registration or has any prior conviction or adjudication of a crime requiring sex offender registration.

The Sentencing Commission estimates that enactment of HB 2527 would have no impact on prison admissions or the number of prison beds needed. The current estimated available bed capacity is 9,924 for males and 968 for females. Based upon the Commission's most recent ten-year projection contained in its *FY 2026 Adult Inmate Prison Population Projections* report, it is estimated that the year-end population will total 9,176 male and 924 female inmates in FY 2026 and 9,485 male and 953 female inmates in FY 2027. The Department of Corrections indicates that enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect on its operations.

The Judiciary indicates that enactment of the bill would increase its operating expenditures by a negligible amount that could be absorbed within existing resources. The Board of Indigents Defense Services indicates that enactment of the bill would have no effect on its operations.

The Kansas Association of Counties indicates that the bill could increase county government expenditures if it increases the need for post-release supervision or creates additional appeals. The League of Kansas Municipalities indicates that the bill would have no fiscal effect on cities.

Sincerely,



Adam C. Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Ann Sagan, Board of Indigents Defense Services
Trisha Morrow, Judiciary
Jennifer King, Department of Corrections
Scott Schultz, Kansas Sentencing Commission
Jay Hall, Kansas Association of Counties
Wendi Stark, League of Kansas Municipalities