

SESSION OF 2025

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2228

As Recommended by House Committee on
Corrections and Juvenile Justice

Brief*

HB 2228 would require the Secretary of Corrections (Secretary) to prepare inmates for release from custody by assisting with gathering identification documentation and providing records of the inmate's education and work while in custody. The bill would require the Secretary and all state agencies to coordinate to implement the provisions of the bill.

The bill would specify its documentation provisions do not apply to inmates who are to be released to another jurisdiction on a warrant or detainer or who are physically or mentally unable to return to the workforce upon release, as determined by the Secretary.

Citizenship Documentation

The bill would require the Secretary, within nine months prior to release, to determine whether an inmate has current versions of certain identification documentation. Specifically, the bill would require the Secretary to determine whether the inmate's documentation includes a certified copy of the inmate's birth certificate, Social Security card or replacement Social Security card, and driver's license or nondriver's identification card. If any documentation is determined to be missing or unavailable, the Secretary would be required to make reasonable efforts to provide any such documentation to the inmate.

*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 <https://klrd.gov/>

Other Documentation

Additionally, the bill would require the Secretary to provide each inmate with certain Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC) records, if applicable, including:

- Vocational training record;
- Work record;
- Any educational certificate or diplomas received by the inmate; and
- A resume that includes any trade or skills learned by the inmate.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice at the request of a representative of KDOC.

House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice

In the House Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by a representative of KDOC, who stated KDOC has made it a policy to assist inmates in obtaining the documents covered by the bill, and providing opportunities for residents to reenter society as fully engaged citizens is key to reducing recidivism.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by representatives of the American Civil Liberties Union of Kansas, Board of Indigents' Defense Services, and Kansas Appleseed Center for Law and Justice.

No other testimony was provided.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, KDOC indicates that enactment of the bill would increase State General Fund expenditures by \$282,675 in both FY 2026 and FY 2027. The agency reports that its current state identification issuance program is operated by 1.00 FTE position and assisted 29.0 percent of the 3,808 inmates who returned to the community in FY 2024.

KDOC estimates that to make a reasonable effort to provide multiple forms of documentation to 100.0 percent of the pre-release population would require the addition of 3.00 FTE regional release coordinators who would be stationed at correctional facilities in eastern, central, and western Kansas, and 1.00 FTE statewide release coordinator to oversee the program and manage its operations.

The Department of Revenue indicates that enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect on its operations.

Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2026 Governor's Budget Report*.

Department of Corrections; inmate release; nondriver's identification; birth certificate; Social Security card; driver's license