

SESSION OF 2026

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2653

As Recommended by House Committee on
Corrections and Juvenile Justice

Brief*

HB 2653 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 the inmate's:

- 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 the KDOC.

[*Note:* The provisions of the bill are identical to 2025 HB 2228 as introduced. HB 2228 was amended in Senate Judiciary to Senate Sub for HB 2228, and the original contents of the bill were not retained.]

House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice

In the House Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by a representative of the KDOC. The proponent generally stated that for justice-involved individuals, the absence of these documents can be barriers to employment, permanent residence, and other important pieces to reducing the likelihood of their committing another offense and that this bill would be a practical, data-driven step to improving public safety.

No other testimony was provided.

Due to the previous version of the bill passing unanimously out of the House last year, the House Committee recommended the bill be placed on the Consent Calendar.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget, the KDOC and the Department of Revenue indicate the enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect on agency operations.

Any fiscal effect associated with the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2027 Governor's Budget Report*.

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