Kansas Sentencing Commission 700 SW Jackson, Suite 501 Topeka, KS 66603 Phone: (785) 296-0923



Honorable Benjamin J. Sexton, Chair Honorable Stacey L. Donovan, Vice Chair Scott M. Schultz, Executive Director http://www.sentencing.ks.gov

Laura Kelly, Governor

## **MEMORANDUM**

To: Kansas Sentencing Commission Workshop

From: Scott M. Schultz, Executive Director

Date: September 18, 2024

Re: Prison Bed Space Impact Assessment – Retroactive Program Credit (D1-D2,

N1-N3, and Offgrid)

# **IMPACT ASSESSMENT PART 1**

- **Impact on Prison Admissions:** This bill will **not** impact prison admissions during the 10-year projection period.
- Impact on Prison Bed Space: This bill would reduce prison beds by 2, 3, 13, or 14 in FY 2025 and 94, 200, 338, or 468 in FY 2034, depending upon each scenario.
- **Impact on the Commission Workload:** This bill will have **no** impact on workload of the Commission.

# **SUMMARY OF THE BILL**

For discussion purposes, these scenarios would allow offenders not currently eligible for program credit under statute (D1-D2, N1-N3, and Offgrid) to earn program credit up to 5%, 10%, 15%, or 20% of their sentence, depending on the chosen scenario. The proposed bill's application would be retroactive.

**Note**: Because these offenders, in general, are serving long sentences, the bed impact is minimal in the first year of the simulation.

## **FINDINGS**

- In FY 2024, **4,505 offenders** were incarcerated in KDOC for offenses falling under Drug 1-2; Nondrug 1-3; and Offgrid Offenses. The following is a breakdown of the stock population by severity levels with the average remaining sentence included:
  - o Drug Severity Level One − 129
    - 67 months remaining

- o Drug Severity Level Two − 295
  - 52 months remaining
- **Nondrug Severity Level One 1235** 
  - 173 months remaining
- **Nondrug Severity Level Two 246** 
  - 122 months remaining
- **Nondrug Severity Level Three 1128** 
  - 77 months remaining
- Offgrid 1517
  - 189 months remaining

## **Scenarios**

- Scenario 1: The first scenario would allow offenders in the above-referenced groups to earn up to 5% of their sentence in program credit.
- Scenario 2: The first scenario would allow offenders in the above-referenced groups to earn up to 10% of their sentence in program credit.
- Scenario 3: The first scenario would allow offenders in the above-referenced groups to earn up to 15% of their sentence in program credit.
- Scenario 4: The first scenario would allow offenders in the above-referenced groups to earn up to 20% of their sentence in program credit.

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