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MEMORANDUM

To: Senate Committee on Judiciary
From: Office of Revisor of Statutes
Date: March 19, 2024
Subject: Bill Brief for HB 2605

House Bill 2605 increases the maximum rate paid to appointed counsel for an indigent person.

The bill amends K.S.A. 22-4507, the statute that sets the compensation to be paid to attorneys for providing services to people who are indigent. Current law in subsection (c) provides that the attorneys will be compensated at the rate of \$80 per hour unless the chief judge negotiates a lower hourly rate, or the attorney has a contract with the board that specifies the rate paid. The bill amends subsection (c) to provide that the attorneys will be compensated at a rate not less than \$120 per hour and not more than \$140 per hour. The bill keeps the current law exceptions to that rate in place.

The bill would take effect from and after publication in the statute book, July 1, 2024.