

From: Schultz, Scott [KSSC] <Scott.Schultz@ks.gov>

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To: J. Russell Jennings <Russ.Jennings@house.ks.gov>; Stephen Owens <Stephen.Owens@house.ks.gov>; John Carmichael <John.Carmichael@house.ks.gov>; John Wheeler <John.Wheeler@house.ks.gov>

Cc: Linda Kentch <Linda.Kentch@house.ks.gov>; Chang, Kunlun [KSSC] <Kunlun.Chang@ks.gov>; Grube, John [KSSC] <John.Grube@ks.gov>; Harmon, Brenda K [KSSC] <Brenda.Harmon@ks.gov>

Subject: HB 2484 - 50% Good Time Credit



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Reps. Owens, Wheeler, Carmichael and Jennings,

Please find the follow-up responses from the KSSC regarding questions received during testimony this past week on HB 2484 – 50% Good Time Credit:

1. Are there other states that grant 50% good time credit to inmates? – Rep. Owens

There are two sources we were able to find that cover a state survey. Attached is the National Council for State Governments 2016 survey for your review. Also included is a link (https://www.prisonfellowship.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/GoodTimeChartUS_2018.pdf) from Prison Fellowship that combines good time and earned time (program) credits. Most interesting though is Kansas awarded 50% good time credit prior to the passage of the sentencing guidelines in 1993. I have attached the pre-guidelines good time credit statute. See K.S.A. 1990 Supp. 22-3722. As set forth there, offenders sentenced to two years or more in prison could earn up to 50% good time credit on their sentences.

2. Can parole services absorb the 150 bed savings from the bill? – Rep. Wheeler

KDOC spokesman Randy Bowman has indicated that parole caseloads are high at present and this was indicated in KDOC's presentation to HCJJ early in the session. So it is a possibility that there would be a fiscal impact here but savings will accrue in having the inmates out of prison.

3. What is the bed space impact if person felonies are exempted from the bill, leaving only nonperson crimes to receive 50% good time credit? – Rep. Carmichael

Exempting person felonies from the bill would result in a savings of 88 beds in FY 2021 and 807 beds in FY 2030. This is compared to the current savings estimate of 150 in FY 2021 and 2,020 in FY 2030. Please see the attached memo for more information.

Should the committee need further information, please call on me. Thank you.

Scott Schultz
Executive Director



700 SW Jackson, Suite 501
Topeka, Kansas 66603
(785) 296-0923
www.sentencing.ks.gov