

SESSION OF 2003

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 171**

As Recommended by Senate Committee on  
Judiciary

**Brief\***

SB 171 amends the theft statute to increase the value threshold when theft of property becomes a felony offense from \$500 to \$1,000.

**Background**

The bill was supported by the Riley County Attorney who said the threshold was last raised from \$150 to \$500 in 1988 and the increased dollar threshold was needed to keep pace with the growing costs of goods and other property.

The bill was opposed by the Kansas Chamber of Commerce and Industry saying this was a great concern to retailers.

The fiscal note states that the Kansas Sentencing Commission estimates passage of the bill would reduce the inmate population by 41 to 83 inmates as of June 30, 2004, and a reduction of 47 to 111 as of June 30, 2013. According to the Department of Corrections, if the projected reduction in the inmate population occurs and is spread evenly over the fiscal year, the resulting reduction in the average daily population (ADP) would be approximately 20 to 40 inmates. Applying the estimated marginal cost rate of \$2,000 per ADP would result in savings of approximately \$40,000 to \$80,000 in FY 2004.

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\*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 <http://www.kslegislature.org/kldr>