

February 3, 2021

The Honorable Richard Hilderbrand, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare
Statehouse, Room 445A-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Hilderbrand:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 120 by Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 120 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 120 would establish the Joint Committee on Child Welfare System Oversight. The duties of the Committee would be to review the following:

1. Department for Children and Families' (DCF) oversight of the reintegration, foster care and adoption services contracts;
2. Duties and responsibilities of state agencies and service providers of child welfare in the State of Kansas;
3. Level of access to child welfare services;
4. Number of children in the child welfare system;
5. Licensing standards for case managers in the child welfare system; and
6. Any other topics the committee deems necessary.

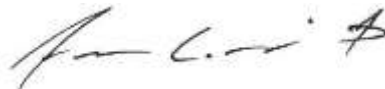
The Committee would comprise 11 members of the Legislature to serve for terms coinciding with their elected or appointed terms. The Committee would meet on or before August 1, 2021, at least once in January, once in April, and at least once for two consecutive days during each of the third and fourth calendar quarters. The Committee could not exceed six meetings in a calendar year. The exception would be if the chairperson calls an additional meeting under urgent circumstances.

The Committee would provide an annual report at the beginning of each regular legislative session. Members of the Committee would be paid compensation, travel expenses and subsistence expenses as provided in current law for attending meetings. The Legislative Coordinating Council (LCC) may provide professional services as requested by the Committee. The Committee may make recommendations and introduce legislation as necessary in performing its functions.

According to DCF, the Committee began meeting in August 2020. DCF has been providing materials, data and testimony, as needed. Any DCF staff time required by the bill is already included within the DCF's current budget. DCF also assumes that there would be no fiscal effect on the agency for external members travel expenses, as the bill states those expenses would be the responsibility of LCC.

Legislative Administrative Services indicates that enactment of SB 120 would increase costs by \$30,009 from the State General Fund in FY 2022. These costs include expenditures for 11 members for salaries, subsistence, mileage, tolls, and other expenses of \$25,949. There would also be committee assistant costs of \$4,060. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 120 is not reflected in *The FY 2022 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,



Adam Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Kim Holter, Children & Families
Karen Clowers, Legislative Services