

February 15, 2016

The Honorable Connie O'Brien, Chairperson
House Committee on Children and Seniors
Statehouse, Room 187-N
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative O'Brien:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2585 by House Committee on Children and Seniors

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2585 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2585 would establish the Foster Care Oversight Task Force. This taskforce would review the level of oversight of the Department for Children and Families (DCF) over foster care contractors; evaluate whether a working group consisting of attorneys in the area of family law, judges, foster parents and parents with reintegrated children would aid in addressing foster care concerns; study the proper selection of foster care parents and the qualifications of foster parents; and review the duties of those individuals responsible for foster children, the safe families act, the connection between DCF and foster care contractors and other such areas of concern regarding foster care.

The task force would consist of 17 members, 12 would be appointed by the Legislature and five would be appointed by the Governor. The five appointed by the Governor would have to include an attorney who practices family law, a district court judge who maintains a family law docket, a member of CASA, a guardian ad litem, and a member of the Kansas Children Service League.

The task force would meet at least six times a year on the call of the chairperson. The task force would be required to submit a written report on findings and recommendations to the Legislature at the beginning of each session.

Estimated State Fiscal Effect				
	FY 2016 SGF	FY 2016 All Funds	FY 2017 SGF	FY 2017 All Funds
Revenue	--	--	--	--
Expenditure	--	--	\$48,914	\$48,914
FTE Pos.	--	--	--	--

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DCF states that the majority of the data and information on foster care programs that the task force could request is already captured by DCF. Any additional information could be gathered using existing resources. Legislative Administrative Services estimates expenditures of \$48,914 from the State General Fund for six meetings of the new task force in FY 2017. This estimate includes salary, subsistence, mileage and enroute charges for 12 legislative members; subsistence, mileage and miscellaneous charges for five non-legislative members; and salary and benefit expenditures for the services of a committee secretary.

Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2585 is not reflected in *The FY 2017 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shawn Sullivan", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Shawn Sullivan,
Director of the Budget

cc: Jackie Aubert, Children & Families
Karen Clowers, Legislative Services