

February 11, 2016

The Honorable Jeff King, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Judiciary
Statehouse, Room 341-E
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator King:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 394 by Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 394 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 394 would create the Supporting Families Act. The Act would establish a process which would allow parents or legal custodians to execute a power of attorney naming another caregiver or family member to have physical custody and provide care for their child or children for up to one year. For parents or legal custodians serving on active duty status in the military, the authority could be granted for a period longer than one year. A child placement agency or other Kansas charitable organization working under an agreement with a child placement agency could establish a program under the Act. Placements could be indirectly subject to rules and regulations if placed under the umbrella of a child placement agency. The execution of power of attorney would not constitute abandonment, abuse, or neglect. The Kansas Judicial Council would be required to create the special power of attorney form. The Department for Children and Families would be required to monitor these placements.

Estimated State Fiscal Effect				
	FY 2016 SGF	FY 2016 All Funds	FY 2017 SGF	FY 2017 All Funds
Revenue	--	--	--	--
Expenditure	--	--	\$109,633	\$114,153
FTE Pos.	--	--	--	2.00

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The Office of Judicial Administration states that if SB 394 were to have a fiscal effect on Judicial Branch revenues or expenditures, it would be negligible. The Kansas Judicial Council estimates a one-time expenditure of \$1,200 for one meeting of an advisory committee during FY 2017 to discuss and create a form of power of attorney that is consistent with the bill's requirements.

The Department for Children and Families (DCF) states that SB 394 would result in additional workload in monitoring placements made under the Act. An additional 0.50 FTE Social Worker Specialist position would be required in each of the four DCF regions, which would increase salary and other operating costs by \$114,153 in FY 2017. The State General Fund portion of the additional expenditures would be \$109,633. DCF also states that the Act could increase the workload of investigative staff, but the Department makes no estimate of additional costs at this time. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 394 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
Ashley Michaelis, Judiciary
Janelle Williams, Judicial Council