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House Substitute for SENATE BILL No. 421

By Committee on Appropriations

4-2

AN ACT concerning the department of social and rehabilitation services; authorizing the secretary of social and rehabilitation services to request and accept certain voluntary fees; prescribing procedures; guidelines and reports therefor and disposition thereof.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

- Section 1. (a) The secretary of social and rehabilitation services is hereby authorized to request and accept voluntary fee contributions from parents of children with disabilities in accordance with this section for services provided to their children by an institution or a program of the department of social and rehabilitation services.
- (b) Prior to requesting any such voluntary fees under this section, the secretary of social and rehabilitation services (1) shall develop and adopt suggested guidelines for voluntary fee contributions that is similar to other fee guidelines currently being used for other assistance or services and programs of the department of social and rehabilitation services, (2) shall prepare and deliver a letter to the parents of every child who is receiving such services, or to such relatives or other persons who have accepted some financial responsibility for such child, to express the urgent need for such persons to make every effort to contribute, in accordance with the guidelines adopted by the secretary, to the services for children with disabilities contributions fund to the extent of their financial ability to do so, and (3) shall prepare and deliver a letter to all organizations advocating for services for children with disabilities to request such organizations assist in expressing to all parents and other persons the urgent need for families to make every effort to contribute to the services for children with disabilities contributions fund. In all written correspondence from the department of social and rehabilitation services to families with children with disabilities, the secretary of social and rehabilitation services shall include a clearly-defined statement encouraging such families to contribute voluntary fees to the services for children with disabilities contributions fund to the best of their ability to do so.
- All moneys received by the secretary of social and rehabilitation services under this section shall be remitted to the state treasurer in accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 75-4215, and amendments thereto.

Upon receipt of each such remittance, the state treasurer shall deposit the entire amount in the state treasury to the credit of the services for children with disabilities contributions fund, which is hereby created in the state treasury and which shall be administered by the secretary of social and rehabilitation services. All moneys credited to the services for children with disabilities contributions fund shall be used to match available federal funds to provide support and assistance for families with children with disabilities. All expenditures from the services for children with disabilities contributions fund shall be in accordance with the provisions of appropriation acts upon warrants of the director of accounts and reports pursuant to vouchers approved by the secretary of social and rehabilitation services or the secretary's designee.

- (d) At the beginning of the regular session of the legislature in 2003, the secretary of social and rehabilitation services shall submit a report to the committee on appropriations of the house of representatives, the committee on ways and means of the senate and to other appropriate standing and joint committees of the legislature on the status and results of the voluntary fees collection program under this section.
- Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the Kansas register.