

SESSION OF 2004

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2569

As Amended by Senate Committee of the Whole

Brief*

HB 2569 provides for the establishment of child advocacy centers which must meet certain criteria such as the following:

- ! be a private nonprofit incorporated agency or governmental entity;
- ! maintain a neutral, child focused facility to deal with children in cases of suspected or alleged sexual abuse, physical, mental, or emotional abuse;
- ! maintain appropriate staff;
- ! provide a multidisciplinary case review team;
- ! provide appropriate case tracking and collect data on cases seen through the Center;
- ! provide medical exam centers;
- ! provide for an interagency commitment;
- ! provide for screening and training for staff and volunteers.

Any qualified center would be eligible for state funding.

Background

Two legislators appeared in support of the bill. Others appearing in favor of the measure included representatives from Wichita Children's House, an Attorney from the District Attorney's Office in Wichita, the SOS Child Advocacy Center, the Prairie Advocacy Center, Inc., the Crisis Center of Dodge City, and the Farm, Inc.

Comments were received from a conferee with the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services (SRS).

*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>

The Senate Committee of the Whole removed the provisions in the bill requiring community protocols meet the requirements of the National Children's Alliance.

The fiscal note indicates that, for SRS and the Office of Attorney General, there would be no fiscal effect. There is the possibility for additional state expenditures since there is a provision for the children's advocacy centers to receive state funding.