

**HOUSE BILL No. 2034**

By Committee on Child Welfare and Foster Care

1-17

1 AN ACT concerning children and minors; relating to procedures in  
2 investigations of child abuse or neglect; requiring a child abuse review  
3 and evaluation referral; creating a program in the department of health  
4 and environment for the training and payment for child abuse reviews  
5 and exams; defining child abuse review and evaluation providers,  
6 networks and examination and child abuse medical resource centers;  
7 amending K.S.A. 38-2202 and 38-2226 and repealing the existing  
8 sections.  
9

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

11 New Section 1. (a) (1) When an investigation of child abuse or  
12 neglect conducted pursuant to K.S.A. 38-2226, and amendments thereto,  
13 includes a CARE referral that a child abuse medical resource center has  
14 recommended a CARE exam be conducted and the CARE provider  
15 determines a child has been subjected to physical abuse, emotional abuse,  
16 medical neglect or physical neglect, such determination shall be reported  
17 in a completed review and provided to the secretary and the local law  
18 enforcement agency or the agency's designee.

19 (2) When the secretary receives a completed review pursuant to  
20 paragraph (1), the secretary shall consider and include the completed  
21 review in making recommendations regarding the care, safety and  
22 placement of the child and maintain the completed review in the case  
23 record.

24 (3) Reviews conducted pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be confidential  
25 and not be disclosed except as provided in this section and K.S.A. 38-2209  
26 through 38-2213, and amendments thereto.

27 (b) To provide forensic evaluation services to a child alleged to be a  
28 victim of physical abuse, emotional abuse, medical neglect or physical  
29 neglect in investigations that include a CARE exam:

30 (1) Child abuse medical resource centers may collaborate directly or  
31 through technology with CARE providers to provide forensic medical  
32 evaluations, medical training, support, mentoring and peer review to  
33 enhance the skill and role of child abuse medical resource centers and the  
34 CARE providers in a multidisciplinary context;

35 (2) CARE providers and child abuse medical resource centers shall  
36 provide and receive specialized training for medical evaluations conducted

1 in a hospital, child advocacy center or by a private healthcare professional  
2 without the need for an agreement between such center and provider; and

3 (3) the CARE network shall develop recommendations concerning  
4 the medical-based screening process and forensic evidence collection for a  
5 child and provide such recommendations to CARE providers, child  
6 advocacy centers, hospitals and licensed practitioners.

7 (c) To implement and administer this section, the secretary of health  
8 and environment shall:

9 (1) Provide training for CARE providers to establish and maintain  
10 compliance with the requirements of K.S.A. 38-2202, and amendments  
11 thereto;

12 (2) assist in the implementation of subsection (b);

13 (3) pay for and manage a network referral system database; and

14 (4) adopt rules and regulations as necessary, subject to available  
15 appropriations.

16 (d) (1) A provider shall submit all charges for payment of reviews and  
17 CARE exams to the secretary of health and environment within 90 days  
18 after a review or exam has been performed.

19 (2) The secretary of health and environment shall pay all charges  
20 directly to the provider within 30 days after being submitted.

21 (3) The payment amount shall be for the exam at the rate of a  
22 reasonable cost for providing such exam, excluding costs for treatment that  
23 may be required due to the diagnosis, or any facility fees, supplies or  
24 laboratory or radiology testing.

25 (e) There is hereby established in the state treasury the child abuse  
26 review and evaluation fund, and such fund shall be administered by the  
27 secretary of health and environment. All expenditures from the child abuse  
28 review and evaluation fund shall be for payments of CARE exams,  
29 training of CARE providers and the implementation and administration of  
30 subsection (b), as needed. All expenditures from the child abuse review  
31 and evaluation fund shall be made in accordance with appropriation acts  
32 upon warrants of the director of accounts and reports issued pursuant to  
33 vouchers approved by the secretary of health and environment or the  
34 secretary's designee. All moneys received for CARE exams and CARE  
35 provider training shall be remitted to the state treasurer in accordance with  
36 the provisions of K.S.A. 75-4215, and amendments thereto. Upon receipt  
37 of each such remittance, the state treasurer shall deposit the entire amount  
38 in the state treasury to the credit of the child abuse review and evaluation  
39 fund.

40 (f) This section shall be a part of and supplemental to the revised  
41 Kansas code for care of children.

42 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 38-2202 is hereby amended to read as follows: 38-  
43 2202. As used in the revised Kansas code for care of children, unless the

1 context otherwise indicates:

- 2 (a) "Abandon" or "abandonment" means to forsake, desert or, without  
3 making appropriate provision for substitute care, cease providing care for  
4 the child.
- 5 (b) "Adult correction facility" means any public or private facility,  
6 secure or nonsecure, that is used for the lawful custody of accused or  
7 convicted adult criminal offenders.
- 8 (c) "Aggravated circumstances" means the abandonment, torture,  
9 chronic abuse, sexual abuse or chronic, life threatening neglect of a child.
- 10 (d) "Child in need of care" means a person less than 18 years of age  
11 at the time of filing of the petition or issuance of an ex parte protective  
12 custody order pursuant to K.S.A. 38-2242, and amendments thereto, who:
- 13 (1) Is without adequate parental care, control or subsistence and the  
14 condition is not due solely to the lack of financial means of the child's  
15 parents or other custodian;
- 16 (2) is without the care or control necessary for the child's physical,  
17 mental or emotional health;
- 18 (3) has been physically, mentally or emotionally abused or neglected  
19 or sexually abused;
- 20 (4) has been placed for care or adoption in violation of law;
- 21 (5) has been abandoned or does not have a known living parent;
- 22 (6) is not attending school as required by K.S.A. 72-3421 or 72-3120,  
23 and amendments thereto;
- 24 (7) except in the case of a violation of K.S.A. 41-727, ~~K.S.A. 74-~~  
25 ~~8810(j), K.S.A. 79-3321(m) or (n), and amendments thereto,~~ or K.S.A.  
26 2022 Supp. 21-6301(a)(14), and amendments thereto, or, except as  
27 provided in paragraph (12), does an act which, when committed by a  
28 person under 18 years of age, is prohibited by state law, city ordinance or  
29 county resolution, but which is not prohibited when done by an adult;
- 30 (8) while less than 10 years of age, commits any act that if done by an  
31 adult would constitute the commission of a felony or misdemeanor as  
32 defined by K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 21-5102, and amendments thereto;
- 33 (9) is willfully and voluntarily absent from the child's home without  
34 the consent of the child's parent or other custodian;
- 35 (10) is willfully and voluntarily absent at least a second time from a  
36 court ordered or designated placement, or a placement pursuant to court  
37 order, if the absence is without the consent of the person with whom the  
38 child is placed or, if the child is placed in a facility, without the consent of  
39 the person in charge of such facility or such person's designee;
- 40 (11) has been residing in the same residence with a sibling or another  
41 person under 18 years of age, who has been physically, mentally or  
42 emotionally abused or neglected, or sexually abused;
- 43 (12) while less than 10 years of age commits the offense defined in

1 K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 21-6301(a)(14), and amendments thereto;

2 (13) has had a permanent custodian appointed and the permanent  
3 custodian is no longer able or willing to serve; or

4 (14) has been subjected to an act that would constitute human  
5 trafficking or aggravated human trafficking, as defined by K.S.A. 2022  
6 Supp. 22-5426, and amendments thereto, or commercial sexual  
7 exploitation of a child, as defined by K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 21-6422, and  
8 amendments thereto, or has committed an act which, if committed by an  
9 adult, would constitute selling sexual relations, as defined by K.S.A. 2022  
10 Supp. 21-6419, and amendments thereto.

11 (e) *"Child abuse medical resource center" means a medical*  
12 *institution affiliated with an accredited children's hospital or a recognized*  
13 *institution of higher education that has an accredited medical school*  
14 *program with board-certified child abuse pediatricians who provide*  
15 *training, support, mentoring and peer review to CARE providers on CARE*  
16 *exams.*

17 (f) *"Child abuse review and evaluation exam" or "CARE exam"*  
18 *means a forensic medical evaluation of a child alleged to be a victim of*  
19 *abuse or neglect conducted by a CARE provider.*

20 (g) *"Child abuse review and evaluation network" or "CARE network"*  
21 *means a network of CARE providers, child abuse medical resource centers*  
22 *and any medical provider associated with a child advocacy center that has*  
23 *the ability to conduct a CARE exam that collaborate to improve services*  
24 *provided to a child alleged to be a victim of abuse or neglect.*

25 (h) *"Child abuse review and evaluation provider" or "CARE*  
26 *provider" means a person licensed to practice medicine and surgery,*  
27 *advanced practice registered nurse or licensed physician assistant who*  
28 *performs CARE exams of and provides medical diagnosis and treatment to*  
29 *a child alleged to be a victim of abuse or neglect and who receives:*

30 (1) *Kansas-based initial intensive training regarding child*  
31 *maltreatment from the CARE network;*

32 (2) *continuous trainings on child maltreatment from the CARE*  
33 *network; and*

34 (3) *peer review and new provider mentoring regarding medical*  
35 *evaluations from a child abuse medical resource center.*

36 (i) *"Child abuse review and evaluation referral" or "CARE referral"*  
37 *means a brief written review of allegations of physical abuse, emotional*  
38 *abuse, medical neglect or physical neglect submitted by the secretary or*  
39 *law enforcement agency to a child abuse medical resource center for a*  
40 *recommendation of such child's need for medical care that may include a*  
41 *CARE exam.*

42 (j) *"Citizen review board" is a group of community volunteers*  
43 *appointed by the court and whose duties are prescribed by K.S.A. 38-2207*

1 and 38-2208, and amendments thereto.

2 ~~(f)~~(k) "Civil custody case" includes any case filed under chapter 23 of  
3 the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto, the Kansas  
4 family law code, article 11 of chapter 38 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated,  
5 and amendments thereto, determination of parentage, article 21 of chapter  
6 59 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto, adoption  
7 and relinquishment act, or article 30 of chapter 59 of the Kansas Statutes  
8 Annotated, and amendments thereto, guardians and conservators.

9 ~~(g)~~(l) "Court-appointed special advocate" means a responsible adult  
10 other than an attorney guardian ad litem who is appointed by the court to  
11 represent the best interests of a child, as provided in K.S.A. 38-2206, and  
12 amendments thereto, in a proceeding pursuant to this code.

13 ~~(h)~~(m) "Custody" whether temporary, protective or legal, means the  
14 status created by court order or statute that vests in a custodian, whether an  
15 individual or an agency, the right to physical possession of the child and  
16 the right to determine placement of the child, subject to restrictions placed  
17 by the court.

18 ~~(i)~~(n) "Extended out of home placement" means a child has been in  
19 the custody of the secretary and placed with neither parent for 15 of the  
20 most recent 22 months beginning 60 days after the date at which a child in  
21 the custody of the secretary was removed from the child's home.

22 ~~(j)~~(o) "Educational institution" means all schools at the elementary  
23 and secondary levels.

24 ~~(k)~~(p) "Educator" means any administrator, teacher or other  
25 professional or paraprofessional employee of an educational institution  
26 who has exposure to a pupil specified in K.S.A. 72-6143(a), and  
27 amendments thereto.

28 ~~(l)~~(q) "Harm" means physical or psychological injury or damage.

29 ~~(m)~~(r) "Interested party" means the grandparent of the child, a person  
30 with whom the child has been living for a significant period of time when  
31 the child in need of care petition is filed, and any person made an  
32 interested party by the court pursuant to K.S.A. 38-2241, and amendments  
33 thereto, or Indian tribe seeking to intervene that is not a party.

34 ~~(n)~~(s) "Jail" means:

35 (1) An adult jail or lockup; or

36 (2) a facility in the same building or on the same grounds as an adult  
37 jail or lockup, unless the facility meets all applicable standards and  
38 licensure requirements under law and there is: (A) Total separation of the  
39 juvenile and adult facility spatial areas such that there could be no  
40 haphazard or accidental contact between juvenile and adult residents in the  
41 respective facilities; (B) total separation in all juvenile and adult program  
42 activities within the facilities, including recreation, education, counseling,  
43 health care, dining, sleeping and general living activities; and (C) separate

1 juvenile and adult staff, including management, security staff and direct  
2 care staff such as recreational, educational and counseling.

3 ~~(t)~~(t) "Juvenile detention facility" means any secure public or private  
4 facility used for the lawful custody of accused or adjudicated juvenile  
5 offenders that must not be a jail.

6 ~~(u)~~(u) "Juvenile intake and assessment worker" means a responsible  
7 adult authorized to perform intake and assessment services as part of the  
8 intake and assessment system established pursuant to K.S.A. 75-7023, and  
9 amendments thereto.

10 ~~(v)~~(v) "Kinship care placement" means the placement of a child in the  
11 home of an adult with whom the child or the child's parent already has  
12 close emotional ties.

13 ~~(w)~~(w) "Law enforcement officer" means any person who by virtue of  
14 office or public employment is vested by law with a duty to maintain  
15 public order or to make arrests for crimes, whether that duty extends to all  
16 crimes or is limited to specific crimes.

17 ~~(x)~~(x) "Multidisciplinary team" means a group of persons, appointed  
18 by the court under K.S.A. 38-2228, and amendments thereto, that has  
19 knowledge of the circumstances of a child in need of care.

20 ~~(y)~~(y) "Neglect" means acts or omissions by a parent, guardian or  
21 person responsible for the care of a child resulting in harm to a child, or  
22 presenting a likelihood of harm, and the acts or omissions are not due  
23 solely to the lack of financial means of the child's parents or other  
24 custodian. Neglect may include, but shall not be limited to:

25 (1) Failure to provide the child with food, clothing or shelter  
26 necessary to sustain the life or health of the child;

27 (2) failure to provide adequate supervision of a child or to remove a  
28 child from a situation that requires judgment or actions beyond the child's  
29 level of maturity, physical condition or mental abilities and that results in  
30 bodily injury or a likelihood of harm to the child; or

31 (3) failure to use resources available to treat a diagnosed medical  
32 condition if such treatment will make a child substantially more  
33 comfortable, reduce pain and suffering, or correct or substantially diminish  
34 a crippling condition from worsening. A parent legitimately practicing  
35 religious beliefs who does not provide specified medical treatment for a  
36 child because of religious beliefs shall, not for that reason, be considered a  
37 negligent parent; however, this exception shall not preclude a court from  
38 entering an order pursuant to K.S.A. 38-2217(a)(2), and amendments  
39 thereto.

40 ~~(z)~~(z) "Parent" when used in relation to a child or children, includes a  
41 guardian and every person who is by law liable to maintain, care for or  
42 support the child.

43 ~~(aa)~~(aa) "Party" means the state, the petitioner, the child, any parent of

1 the child and an Indian child's tribe intervening pursuant to the Indian  
2 child welfare act.

3 ~~(w)~~(bb) "Permanency goal" means the outcome of the permanency  
4 planning process, which may be reintegration, adoption, appointment of a  
5 permanent custodian or another planned permanent living arrangement.

6 ~~(x)~~(cc) "Permanent custodian" means a judicially approved  
7 permanent guardian of a child pursuant to K.S.A. 38-2272, and  
8 amendments thereto.

9 ~~(y)~~(dd) "Physical, mental or emotional abuse" means the infliction of  
10 physical, mental or emotional harm or the causing of a deterioration of a  
11 child and may include, but shall not be limited to, maltreatment or  
12 exploiting a child to the extent that the child's health or emotional well-  
13 being is endangered.

14 ~~(z)~~(ee) "Placement" means the designation by the individual or  
15 agency having custody of where and with whom the child will live.

16 ~~(aa)~~(ff) "Qualified residential treatment program" means a program  
17 designated by the secretary for children and families as a qualified  
18 residential treatment program pursuant to federal law.

19 ~~(bb)~~(gg) "Reasonable and prudent parenting standard" means the  
20 standard characterized by careful and sensible parental decisions that  
21 maintain the health, safety and best interests of a child while at the same  
22 time encouraging the emotional and developmental growth of the child,  
23 that a caregiver shall use when determining whether to allow a child in  
24 foster care under the responsibility of the state to participate in  
25 extracurricular, enrichment, cultural and social activities.

26 ~~(ee)~~(hh) "Relative" means a person related by blood, marriage or  
27 adoption.

28 ~~(dd)~~(ii) "Runaway" means a child who is willfully and voluntarily  
29 absent from the child's home without the consent of the child's parent or  
30 other custodian.

31 ~~(ee)~~(jj) "Secretary" means the secretary for children and families or  
32 the secretary's designee.

33 ~~(ff)~~(kk) "Secure facility" means a facility, other than a staff secure  
34 facility or juvenile detention facility, that is operated or structured so as to  
35 ensure that all entrances and exits from the facility are under the exclusive  
36 control of the staff of the facility, whether or not the person being detained  
37 has freedom of movement within the perimeters of the facility, or that  
38 relies on locked rooms and buildings, fences or physical restraint in order  
39 to control behavior of its residents. No secure facility shall be in a city or  
40 county jail.

41 ~~(gg)~~(ll) "Sexual abuse" means any contact or interaction with a child  
42 in which the child is being used for the sexual stimulation of the  
43 perpetrator, the child or another person. Sexual abuse shall include, but is

1 not limited to, allowing, permitting or encouraging a child to:

2 (1) Be photographed, filmed or depicted in pornographic material; or

3 (2) be subjected to aggravated human trafficking, as defined in  
4 K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 21-5426(b), and amendments thereto, if committed in  
5 whole or in part for the purpose of the sexual gratification of the offender  
6 or another, or be subjected to an act that would constitute conduct  
7 proscribed by article 55 of chapter 21 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated or  
8 K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 21-6419 or 21-6422, and amendments thereto.

9 ~~(hh)~~(mm) "Shelter facility" means any public or private facility or  
10 home, other than a juvenile detention facility or staff secure facility, that  
11 may be used in accordance with this code for the purpose of providing  
12 either temporary placement for children in need of care prior to the  
13 issuance of a dispositional order or longer term care under a dispositional  
14 order.

15 ~~(ii)~~(nn) "Staff secure facility" means a facility described in K.S.A. 65-  
16 535, and amendments thereto: (1) That does not include construction  
17 features designed to physically restrict the movements and activities of  
18 juvenile residents who are placed therein; (2) that may establish reasonable  
19 rules restricting entrance to and egress from the facility; and (3) in which  
20 the movements and activities of individual juvenile residents may, for  
21 treatment purposes, be restricted or subject to control through the use of  
22 intensive staff supervision. No staff secure facility shall be in a city or  
23 county jail.

24 ~~(jj)~~(oo) "Transition plan" means, when used in relation to a youth in  
25 the custody of the secretary, an individualized strategy for the provision of  
26 medical, mental health, education, employment and housing supports as  
27 needed for the adult and, if applicable, for any minor child of the adult, to  
28 live independently and specifically provides for the supports and any  
29 services for which an adult with a disability is eligible including, but not  
30 limited to, funding for home and community based services waivers.

31 ~~(kk)~~(pp) "Youth residential facility" means any home, foster home or  
32 structure that provides 24-hour-a-day care for children and that is licensed  
33 pursuant to article 5 of chapter 65 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and  
34 amendments thereto.

35 Sec. 3. K.S.A. 38-2226 is hereby amended to read as follows: 38-  
36 2226. (a) *Investigation for child abuse or neglect.* The secretary and law  
37 enforcement officers shall have the duty to receive and investigate reports  
38 of child abuse or neglect for the purpose of determining whether the report  
39 is valid and whether action is required to protect a child. Any person or  
40 agency which maintains records relating to the involved child which are  
41 relevant to any investigation conducted by the secretary or law  
42 enforcement agency under this code shall provide the secretary or law  
43 enforcement agency with the necessary records to assist in investigations.



1 In order to provide such records, the person or agency maintaining the  
2 records shall receive from the secretary or law enforcement: (1) A written  
3 request for information; and (2) a written notice that the investigation is  
4 being conducted by the secretary or law enforcement. If the secretary and  
5 such officers determine that no action is necessary to protect the child but  
6 that a criminal prosecution should be considered, such law enforcement  
7 officers shall make a report of the case to the appropriate law enforcement  
8 agency.

9 (b) *Joint investigations.* When a report of child abuse or neglect  
10 indicates: (1) That there is serious physical harm to, serious deterioration  
11 of or sexual abuse of the child; and (2) that action may be required to  
12 protect the child, the investigation shall be conducted as a joint effort  
13 between the secretary and the appropriate law enforcement agency or  
14 agencies, with a free exchange of information between them pursuant to  
15 K.S.A. 38-2210, and amendments thereto. If a statement of a suspect is  
16 obtained by either agency, a copy of the statement shall be provided to the  
17 other.

18 (c) *Investigation of certain cases.* Suspected child abuse or neglect  
19 which occurs in an institution operated by the Kansas department of  
20 corrections shall be investigated by the attorney general or secretary of  
21 corrections. Any suspected child abuse or neglect in an institution operated  
22 by the Kansas department for aging and disability services, or by persons  
23 employed by the Kansas department for aging and disability services or  
24 the Kansas department for children and families, or of children of persons  
25 employed by either department, shall be investigated by the appropriate  
26 law enforcement agency.

27 (d) *Coordination of investigations by county or district attorney.* If a  
28 dispute develops between agencies investigating a reported case of child  
29 abuse or neglect, the appropriate county or district attorney shall take  
30 charge of, direct and coordinate the investigation.

31 (e) *Investigations concerning certain facilities.* Any investigation  
32 involving a facility subject to licensing or regulation by the secretary of  
33 health and environment shall be promptly reported to the state secretary of  
34 health and environment.

35 (f) *Cooperation between agencies.* Law enforcement agencies and the  
36 secretary shall assist each other in taking action which is necessary to  
37 protect a child regardless of which agency conducted the initial  
38 investigation.

39 (g) *Cooperation between school personnel and investigative*  
40 *agencies.* (1) Educational institutions, the secretary and law enforcement  
41 agencies shall cooperate with each other in the investigation of reports of  
42 suspected child abuse or neglect. The secretary and law enforcement  
43 agencies shall have access to a child in a setting designated by school

1 personnel on the premises of an educational institution. Attendance at an  
2 interview conducted on such premises shall be at the discretion of the  
3 agency conducting the interview, giving consideration to the best interests  
4 of the child. To the extent that safety and practical considerations allow,  
5 law enforcement officers on such premises for the purpose of investigating  
6 a report of suspected child abuse or neglect shall not be in uniform.

7 (2) The secretary or a law enforcement officer may request the  
8 presence of school personnel during an interview if the secretary or officer  
9 determines that the presence of such person might provide comfort to the  
10 child or facilitate the investigation.

11 (h) *Visual observation required.* As part of any investigation  
12 conducted pursuant to this section, the secretary, ~~or the secretary's~~  
13 ~~designee~~, or the law enforcement agency, or such agency's designee, that is  
14 conducting the investigation shall visually observe the child who is the  
15 alleged victim of abuse or neglect. In the case of a joint investigation  
16 conducted pursuant to subsection (b), the secretary and the investigating  
17 law enforcement agency, or the designees of the secretary and such  
18 agency, shall both visually observe the child who is the alleged victim of  
19 abuse or neglect. All investigation reports shall include the date, time and  
20 location of any visual observation of a child that is required by this  
21 subsection.

22 (i) *Child abuse review and evaluation referrals.* (1) Upon  
23 **{investigation by law enforcement or}** assignment by the secretary of  
24 any investigation of physical abuse or physical neglect conducted  
25 pursuant to this section that concerns a child five years of age or younger,  
26 the secretary, the law enforcement agency or the agency's designee shall  
27 make a CARE referral for such child.

28 (2) *In any other investigation of physical abuse, emotional abuse,*  
29 *medical neglect or physical neglect conducted pursuant to this section, the*  
30 *secretary, the law enforcement agency or the agency's designee may make*  
31 *a CARE referral for such child.*

32 Sec. 4. K.S.A. 38-2202 and 38-2226 are hereby repealed.

33 Sec. 5. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its  
34 publication in the statute book.