

SESSION OF 2020

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 384

As Amended by House Committee on Education

Brief*

SB 384, as amended, would require the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) and the Department for Children and Families (DCF) to prepare an annual academic report card on educational outcome data regarding foster care students. The bill would require the following data for foster care students to be included in the academic report card:

- The graduation rate;
- The number and percentage promoted to the next grade level;
- The number and percentage suspended during the school year;
- The number and percentage expelled during the school year;
- State standardized assessment scores and the number and percentage meeting academic standards;
- The number enrolled in preschool-aged at-risk programs, Kansas Preschool Pilot program, or early childhood special education program under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Act;

*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 total number of foster care students in the state and how many are enrolled in school districts and how many are enrolled in accredited nonpublic schools; and
- The number and percentage of foster youth participating in the mental health intervention team pilot program or similar mental health programs.

The bill would also require de-identified disaggregated race and ethnicity data for all of the required data. The bill would require the academic report card to be submitted to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education on or before January 15 of each year.

Background

The bill was introduced by the Senate Committee on Education (Senate Committee) at the request of Senator Baumgardner.

In the Senate Committee hearing, proponent testimony was provided by representatives of the DCF, Jobs for America's Graduates–Kansas, and the Kansas Appleseed Center for Law and Justice, noting the requirement for an annual report card would give a more complete understanding of a foster care student's experience in the education system. According to the proponents, the report card would allow for better tailored responses to the needs of foster care students and providing the report card data publicly will ensure transparency and promote accountability for the education of foster youth. Written-only proponent testimony was provided by a private citizen.

No neutral or opponent testimony was provided.

The Senate Committee amended the bill to change the language of "report" to "academic report card," make technical corrections, require de-identified disaggregated race

and ethnicity data for all of the required data, and add the Kansas Preschool Pilot program or early childhood special education program under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Act to the requirement to report the number and percentage of foster care students enrolled in any preschool-aged at-risk program.

In the House Committee on Education (House Committee) hearing, proponent testimony was provided by Senator Baumgardner and representatives of DCF and Keys for Networking. No neutral or opponent testimony was provided.

The House Committee amended the bill at the request of DCF to require the report cards to include data pertaining to foster youth participation in certain mental health programs.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill as introduced, the KSDE indicates the bill would have a negligible fiscal impact and the DCF states the bill would have no fiscal effect.