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MEMORANDUM

To: House Committee on Child Welfare and Foster Care
From: Office of Revisor of Statutes
Date: February 12, 2024
Subject: HB 2628: Requiring the secretary for children and families to release certain information related to a child fatality when criminal charges are filed alleging that a person caused such fatality.

House Bill 2628 would amend a statute related to records concerning children. K.S.A. 38-2212 governs access to certain information related to children alleged or adjudicated to be in need of care.

Currently, “[I]n the event that child abuse or neglect results in a child fatality the secretary shall release the following information in response to an open records request made pursuant to the Kansas open records act...:

- (A) Age and sex of the child;
- (B) date of the fatality;
- (C) a summary of any previous reports of abuse or neglect received by the secretary involving the child, along with the findings of such reports; and
- (D) any department recommended services provided to the child.”

House bill 2628 would allow such information to be released by the secretary pursuant to a request in the event that “criminal charges are filed with a court alleging that a person caused a child fatality.”