

February 27, 2013

The Honorable Lance Kinzer, Chairperson
House Committee on Judiciary
Statehouse, Room 165-W
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Kinzer:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2316 by House Committee on Judiciary

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2316 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2316 would address the expenses paid to court-appointed special advocates (CASA) in Child in Need of Care hearings. The bill would authorize the court to assess the CASA fees against the parent of the child. These fees would be deposited in a new Court-Appointed Special Advocate Program Fund in the state treasury. HB 2316 creates this new fund. All CASA fees paid from this fund would be subject to appropriation and approval by the Department of Children and Family Services (DCF).

The fiscal effect of HB 2316 for DCF centers on the number of CASA expenses to be reviewed and processed for payment as this will be a new responsibility for the agency. In FY 2012, there were 7,151 Child in Need of Care (CINC) filings. It is noted that the number of filings has been increasing recently; however, DCF states that it can fulfill the requirements of this bill within its current resources.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Anderson", written over a white background.

Steven J. Anderson, CPA, MBA
Director of the Budget

cc: Jackie Aubert, DCF
Mary Rinehart, Judiciary
Derek Kreifels, Treasurer's Office