January 19, 2017

The Honorable Steve Alford, Chairperson
House Committee on Children and Seniors
Statehouse, Room 187-N
Topeka, Kansas  66612

Dear Representative Alford:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2019 by 2016 Special Committee on Foster Care Adequacy

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2019 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2019 would establish the Foster Care Oversight Task Force. The task force would review the level of oversight over foster care contractors; evaluate whether a working group consisting of family law attorneys, judges, foster parents, and parents with reintegrated children would aid in addressing foster care concerns; study the proper selection and qualifications of foster care parents; review the duties of those individuals responsible for foster children, the Safe Families Act, the connection between the Department for Children and Families, and foster care contractors; and other areas of concern regarding foster care.

The task force would consist of 17 members, 12 appointed by the Legislature and five appointed by the Governor. The Governor’s appointees would include an attorney who practices family law, a district court judge who maintains a family law docket, a member of CASA, a guardian ad litem, and a member of the Kansas Children’s Service League. The task force would meet at least six times per year and would submit a written report on findings and recommendations to the Legislature at the beginning of each Legislative Session. The provisions of the bill would expire on January 1, 2020.

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<th>Estimated State Fiscal Effect</th>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2018 SGF</td>
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<td>Revenue</td>
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Legislative Administrative Services estimates additional annual expenditures of $51,978 from the State General Fund for salaries, mileage, and subsistence for six meetings of the task force. The estimate includes $40,537 for the expenses of 12 Legislators, $9,773 for the expenses of five non-legislator members, and $1,668 for the salary of a Committee Assistant. The Legislative Coordinating Council would have to approve these expenditures. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2019 is not reflected in The FY 2018 Governor’s Budget Report.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Shawn Sullivan,
Director of the Budget

cc: Jackie Aubert, Children & Families
    Karen Clowers, Legislative Services