Larry L. Campbell, Director



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Laura Kelly, Governor

March 22, 2019

The Honorable Susan Concannon, Chairperson House Committee on Children and Seniors Statehouse, Room 149-S Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Concannon:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2403 by House Committee on Taxation

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2403 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2403 would establish a Joint Committee on Child Welfare System Oversight. The duties of the Joint Committee would be to review the Department for Children and Families' oversight of the reintegration, foster care and adoption services contracts and the duties and responsibilities of state agencies and service providers of child welfare in the state. The committee would also review the level of access to child welfare services; the number of children in the child welfare system; the licensing standards for case managers in the child welfare system; and any other topics deemed necessary.

The committee would include 11 members of the Kansas Legislature to serve for terms coinciding with their elected or appointed terms. It would meet on or before August 1, 2019, at least once in January, once in April, and at least once for two consecutive days during each of the third and fourth calendar quarters, not to exceed six meetings in a calendar year. The exception would be if the Chairperson called an additional meeting under urgent circumstances.

The Joint Committee would provide an annual report at the beginning of each regular Legislative session. Members would be paid compensation, travel expenses and subsistence expenses as provided in KSA 75-3212 for attendance at meetings. The Legislative Coordinating Council (LCC) may provide for professional services as may be requested by the Joint Committee.

The Department for Children and Families indicates that the enactment of HB 2403 could increase its staff time for responding to additional legislative requests. Any costs associated with staff time would be absorbed within existing resources. The LCC assumes there would be six meetings of the Joint Committee on Child Welfare System and Oversight and two meetings of subcommittees each year. The LCC indicates that HB 2403 would increase legislative and

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committee assistant expenditures for salaries and subsistence by \$54,525 from the State General Fund for FY 2020 and each year following. The LCC assumes there could be expenditures for professional services. However, it is not possible to estimate the amount of services that may be needed. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2403 is not reflected in *The FY 2020 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,

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Larry L. Campbell Director of the Budget

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