*Session of 2026*

# HOUSE BILL No. 2731

By Committee on Welfare Reform

Requested by Representative Awerkamp

2-5

AN ACT concerning public assistance; relating to food assistance; directing the secretary for children and families to contract with the office of the inspector general for the establishment of a fraud detection unit to detect, investigate and assist in prosecuting fraud in the food assistance program.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

Section 1. (a) On or before January 1, 2027, the secretary for children and families shall enter into a contract with the office of inspector general established under K.S.A. 75-7427, and amendments thereto, for the establishment and operation of a fraud detection unit for the food assistance program. Such fraud detection unit, meeting the requirements of C.F.R. § 272.4(g), in effect on the effective date of this act, shall be responsible for detecting, investigating and assisting in the prosecution of fraud in the food assistance program.

(b) The fraud detection unit authorized by subsection (a) shall be the department's sole means of fulfilling the requirements of C.F.R. § 272.4(g). On and after January 1, 2027, the secretary shall not hire employees or contract with any other entity to perform fraud detection activities for the food assistance program.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.