

HOUSE BILL No. 2965

By Committee on Federal and State Affairs

3-11

9 AN ACT creating and implementing the fatherhood initiative program;
10 relating to the duties of the department of social and rehabilitation
11 services.

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

14 Section 1. (a) Subject to the provisions of appropriation acts, the sec-
15 retary of social and rehabilitation services shall establish a fatherhood
16 initiative program within the department of social and rehabilitation serv-
17 ices. The objectives of the initiative shall be to:

18 (1) Promote public education concerning the financial and emotional
19 responsibilities of fatherhood;

20 (2) assist men in preparation for the legal, financial and emotional
21 responsibilities of fatherhood;

22 (3) promote the establishment of paternity at childbirth;

23 (4) encourage fathers, regardless of marital status, to foster their emo-
24 tional connection to and financial support of their children;

25 (5) establish support mechanisms for fathers in their relationship with
26 their children, regardless of their marital and financial status;

27 (6) integrate state and local services available for families; and

28 (7) promote, foster, encourage and otherwise support programs de-
29 signed to educate and train young men who are both current and future
30 fathers as to effective parenting skills, behaviors and attitudes.

31 (b) The secretary, on or before the first day of the regular legislative
32 session, shall report annually to the legislature:

33 (1) The number of fathers and children participating in the program;

34 (2) an overview of any moneys spent on the program; and

35 (3) the cost-savings analysis of implementing the program by having
36 children build and retain a relationship with their father.

37 (c) The secretary may adopt any rules and regulations necessary to
38 implement the provisions of this section.

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