

HOUSE BILL No. 2276

By Representative Rhoades

2-4

9 AN ACT relating to healthy marriages and strong families grant program.

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

12 Section 1. (a) The secretary of social and rehabilitation services shall
13 develop and administer a grant program to provide grants in amounts not
14 to exceed \$100,000 to programs that provide marriage education services
15 and support the development of healthy marriages or strengthening of
16 families. Grant recipients may use grant money to provide direct services
17 to participants, develop a program, enlarge program capacity, or pay other
18 program expenses, including provider training and technical assistance
19 expenses.

20 (b) In selecting grant recipients, the secretary of social and rehabili-
21 tation services shall give preference to applicants:

22 (1) Whose programs will contribute to the geographic diversity of
23 program locations; or (2) who operate small programs, but who seek to
24 maximize service delivery and build capacity.

25 (c) The secretary of social and rehabilitation services shall require
26 that each grant recipient provide program services at no cost to
27 participants.

28 (d) The secretary of social and rehabilitation services may contract
29 with private entities to provide marriage education training and curricu-
30 lum, technical assistance, and other support to grant recipients. In se-
31 lecting entities to provide these services, the secretary shall consider
32 whether a prospective provider has knowledge and understanding of the
33 needs of grant recipients operating programs in different areas of this
34 state.

35 (e) The secretary of social and rehabilitation services may adopt rules
36 and regulations to implement and administer the provisions of this
37 section.

38 Sec. 2. (a) During the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, and each
39 fiscal year thereafter, to the extent permitted by federal law, the secretary
40 of social and rehabilitation services shall expend at least 1% of the moneys
41 received under the federal temporary assistance for needy families block
42 grant during each state fiscal year to fund programs that provide assis-
43 tance to needy families to prevent the unnecessary separation of children

1 from their families, improve the quality of care and services to children
2 and their families and ensure permanency for children by reuniting them
3 with their parents by adoption or by another permanent living arrange-
4 ment, including the grant program under section 1, and amendments
5 thereto.

6 (b) The secretary of social and rehabilitation services may enter into
7 an agreement or agreements with a state educational institution, as de-
8 fined by K.S.A. 76-711, and amendments thereto, and Washburn univer-
9 sity, to develop and establish a process to identify and evaluate the best
10 practices and outcomes of the programs funded under subsection (a).
11 During any fiscal year, the cost of such agreement or agreements shall
12 not exceed 10% of the amount required to be expended in accordance
13 with subsection (a).

14 Sec. 3. Before implementing any provision of section 1 or 2, and
15 amendments thereto, the secretary of social and rehabilitation services
16 determines that a waiver or authorization from a federal agency is nec-
17 essary for implementation of the provision, the secretary shall request the
18 waiver or authorization and may delay implementing that provision until
19 the waiver or authorization is granted.

20 Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
21 publication in the statute book.