

February 6, 2025

The Honorable Cyndi Howerton, Chairperson
House Committee on Child Welfare and Foster Care
300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 152-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Howerton:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2175 by House Committee on Child Welfare and Foster Care

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2175 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2175 would revise the Kansas Code for Care of Children. The bill would require that notification of a parent's rights be provided to parents of a child who is the subject of an investigation of abuse or neglect or has been removed from the home by a law enforcement officer. The bill would require an agreement between the Department for Children and Families (DCF) and a parent of a child when a child is removed from the home during an investigation of abuse or neglect. The bill would also require DCF to complete a written report when an investigation is closed. The bill would permit a parent to withhold certain information unless otherwise ordered by a court.

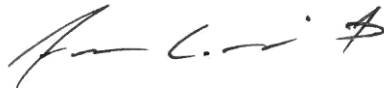
DCF indicates that enactment of HB 2175 would increase expenditures by a total of \$743,455, including \$530,641 from the State General Fund beginning in FY 2026. The expenditures would include salary and operating expenditures for 6.00 additional attorney positions plus other operating expenses that would continue. This would provide one attorney for each DCF region.

The Office of Judicial Administration indicates enactment of HB 2175 could have a fiscal effect on expenditures of the Judicial Branch. The bill's provisions require probable cause findings by the court when a parent refuses medical records of children to be released, and the court must make an order to release them and grant access to the child when parents refuse. Nevertheless, until the courts have had an opportunity to operate under the provisions of HB 2175, an accurate

estimate of the fiscal effect on expenditures by the Judicial Branch cannot be given. The bill would not have a fiscal effect on revenues to the Judicial Branch or State General Fund.

The Kansas Board of Healing Arts indicates that enactment of HB 2175 would have no fiscal effect on the Board. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2175 is not reflected in *The FY 2026 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam C. Proffitt", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Adam C. Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Kim Holter, Department for Children & Families
Trisha Morrow, Judiciary
Susan Gile, Board of Healing Arts