

SESSION OF 2026

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2524

As Amended by House Committee on Child
Welfare and Foster Care

Brief*

HB 2524, as amended, would amend law concerning the Department for Children and Family's (DCF) licensing of family foster home applicants and licensees.

The bill would allow DCF to allow for the continuation of a license of a family foster home when:

- The applicant or licensee otherwise qualifies for such licensure; and
- A person who resides in such home:
 - Has been convicted or adjudicated of an offense as described in continuing law;
 - Was a child with such conviction or adjudication in custody and placed in such home by the Secretary for Children and Families (Secretary);
 - Is less than 26 years of age; and
 - Maintains residence in such home or has been legally adopted by a person who resides in such home.

The Secretary could grant a license or allow the continuation of a license if there are no safety concerns, as determined by the Secretary, and if a person residing in such home otherwise meets the above-listed requirements, but:

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <https://klrd.gov/>

- Is older than 26 years of age; or
- Has an additional conviction or adjudication after release from the custody of the Secretary.

This bill would allow an applicant or licensee of a family foster home to appeal to the Secretary for review if licensure has not been granted. If this arises, the Secretary's decision upon review of the appeal would be final.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Child Welfare and Foster Care at the request of a representative of KVC Kansas.

House Committee on Child Welfare and Foster Care

In the House Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by representatives of the Children's Alliance of Kansas, DCF, KVC Kansas, and the Office of the Child Advocate, and one private citizen. Proponents stated that foster parents are currently required to choose between maintaining a foster care license or supporting a young person who has reached the age of permanency. With this bill, proponents stated that Kansas would retain committed foster care parents, instead of penalizing them for providing safe homes.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by a representative of Saint Francis Ministries.

No other testimony was provided.

The House Committee amended the bill to:

- Remove language requiring the granting of a license in certain circumstances;

- Add language regarding conviction and adjudication to the list of factors allowing continuation of a license under the bill;
- Remove language requiring a child with an adjudication or conviction to be more than 18 years of age;
- Add language regarding safety concerns when the Secretary is granting or continuing a license;
- Add language regarding additional convictions or adjudications when the Secretary is granting or continuing a license; and
- Make other technical amendments.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, DCF states that enactment of the bill would have no fiscal effect on agency operations.

Child care facilities; foster care; family foster homes; Secretary for Children and Families; licensure