{As Amended by Senate Committee of the Whole}

Session of 2026

Substitute for HOUSE BILL No. 2731

By Committee on Welfare Reform

2-16

AN ACT concerning public assistance; requiring the secretary for children and families and the office of inspector general to exchange information and documents related to cash assistance, childcare assistance and food assistance fraud investigations***{; directing the secretary of health and environment and the secretary for children and families to implement data system coordination for the automatic issuance of benefits for children enrolled in the Kansas medical assistance program who meet the federal eligibility criteria for the SUN bucks program}***.

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

Section 1. (a) To facilitate in the detection, investigation and prosecution of fraud in the cash assistance, childcare assistance and food assistance programs, the secretary for children and families and the office of the inspector general shall exchange:

(1) Documents and information related to cash assistance, childcare assistance and food assistance applicants or recipients;

(2) documents and information related to cash assistance, childcare assistance and food assistance eligibility determinations;

(3) electronic benefit card transaction data or documents; and

(4) any other materials received, compiled or created by either agency related to an audit, inquiry or investigation of a cash assistance, childcare assistance or food assistance applicant, recipient, authorized retailer or any other individual suspected of or under investigation for fraud in the cash assistance, childcare assistance or food assistance programs.

(b) Documents and information shall be exchanged at the request of either agency and completed in a reasonable time, that shall not exceed 30 days from the date of the receipt of the request.

(c) All documents and information exchanged shall only be used for the purpose of detecting, investigating and prosecuting fraud in the cash assistance, childcare assistance or food assistance programs.

(d) As used in this section, "document" means the same as defined in K.S.A. 17-7663, and amendments thereto.

{Sec. 2. (a) On or before July 1, 2026, the secretary of health and environment and the secretary for children and families shall implement data system coordination to allow for the automatic issuance of benefits

for children enrolled in the Kansas medical assistance program who meet the federal eligibility criteria for the summer electronic benefit transfer for children program under 42 U.S.C. § 1762, also known as SUN bucks. Such coordination shall include secure electronic data sharing sufficient to permit automatic issuance of summer electronic benefit transfer benefits for the summer of 2026 and each summer thereafter without requiring a separate household application if eligibility can be established through existing data sources.

(b) The secretaries shall ensure that such electronic data sharing complies with all applicable federal privacy and confidentiality requirements.}

Sec. ~~2.~~ ***{3.}*** This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the ~~statute book~~***{ Kansas register}***.