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**Senate Committee on Government Efficiency**
**Proponent Testimony Concerning HB 2731**
**By Steven D. Anderson, CIG, Inspector General**

**March 3, 2026**

Chair Erickson and Members of the Committee:

I am Steve Anderson, Inspector General, thank you for the opportunity to appear today and provide proponent testimony concerning HB 2731. This bill requires the Secretary of the Department for Children and Families (DCF) to share data with the Office of Inspector General (OIG), which will increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the covered programs, while reducing fraud, waste, and abuse.

This legislation is a positive step forward to ensure information involving detecting, investigating, and prosecuting fraud in the cash, childcare, and food assistance programs is shared. It is recognized there are some limitations on data that can be shared by the DCF due to federal rules. The OIG already has access to various databases, so a memorandum of understanding (MOU) would need to be in place to set out procedures to make sure any data that is shareable is done so without undue delay.

The MOU would also ensure that allegations would be shared, thus allowing for collaborative work by both agencies. The fraud allegations from DCF would be matched against fraud allegations in Medicaid. These combined cases have better chance of being prosecuted; allowing multiple allegations to be cleared with one prosecution. This would save time and effort for both agencies while having an increased ability to reduce fraud.

Currently, the Attorney General's Office and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment have a similar MOU which has been in place since 2022 and creates a clear process for how information can be shared.

Thank you for your time. I will be happy to answer questions.