

SESSION OF 2008

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2920

As Amended by House Committee on
Social Services Budget

Brief*

HB 2920 directs the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services (SRS) to develop and administer a grant program, not to exceed \$50,000 per grant per fiscal year to provide marriage education services and support the development of healthy marriages or strengthening of families.

Grant recipients may use grant money to provide direct services, develop a program, enlarge program capacity, or pay other program expenses, including provider training and technical assistance expenses.

Preference shall be given to applicants:

- Whose programs will contribute to the geographic diversity of program locations; or
- Who operate small programs, but who seek to maximize service delivery and build capacity.

The Secretary of Social and Rehabilitation Services shall require that each grant recipient provide program services at no cost to participants.

SRS may contract with private entities to provide marriage education training and curriculum, technical assistance, and other support to grant recipients.

In selecting entities to provide these services, the secretary shall consider whether a prospective provider has

*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 <http://www.kslegislature.org>

knowledge and understanding of the needs of grant recipients operating programs in different areas of this state.

SRS may adopt rules and regulations to implement and administer the provisions of this section.

Beginning in FY 2009, SRS shall expend at least 1.0 percent of moneys received under the federal temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) block grant during each state fiscal year to fund programs that provide assistance to needy families to prevent the unnecessary separation of children from their families, improve the quality of care and services to children and their families and ensure permanency for children by reuniting them with their parents by adoption or by another permanent living arrangement.

SRS may contract with a state educational institution and Washburn University to develop and establish a process to identify and evaluate the best practices and outcomes of the grant program the cost of which shall not exceed 10.0 percent of the total funding.

If SRS determines that a waiver or authorization is required to implement the program, the Secretary shall request the waiver or authorization and delay implementation until that is obtained.

Background

The fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget indicates that TANF block grant that is a fixed amount of \$101,931,061 per fiscal year. HB 2920 requires 1.0 percent of the block grant be expended for the new program which is approximately \$1.0 million per fiscal year. Of that amount, 10.0 percent could be used for a contract with an education institution. To administer the program, SRS indicates that an additional 1.0 FTE position and \$62,961 would be required. The remaining amount would be distributed as grants. Additionally, the fiscal note indicates that the expenditures

authorized in this bill could result in insufficient funding for existing program, as the TANF block grant is a fixed source of funding. If this were to occur, State General Fund moneys could be required to cover the costs to fund existing programs.