

SESSION OF 2009

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 94**

As Amended by Senate Committee on  
Judiciary

**Brief\***

SB 94, as amended, would amend current law to authorize Social and Rehabilitation Services (SRS) custody for a child 15 years or younger, a 16 or 17 year old child if the child has no identifiable parental or family resources, or a 16 or 17 year old child if the child shows signs of physical, mental, emotional, or sexual abuse.

**Background**

The proponent of the bill, as introduced, who presented testimony at the Senate Committee hearing was Don Jordan, Secretary, Social and Rehabilitation Services. He presented the Committee with an amendment that provides SRS custody for a 16 or 17 year old child if the child has no identifiable parental or family resources.

The opponents of the bill, as introduced, who presented testimony at the Senate Committee hearing were Judge Kathleen Sloan, 10<sup>th</sup> Judicial District (Johnson); and Mark Gleeson, Family and Children Program Coordinator, Office of Judicial Administration. Judge Sloan testified that if the amendment proposed by Secretary Jordan in his written testimony were adopted by the Committee, she could support the bill.

The Senate Committee on Judiciary amended the bill to add the provision that authorized SRS custody for a 16 or 17

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\*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>

year old child if the child has no identifiable parental or family resources.

According to the fiscal note on the bill, as introduced, this policy change is included as a recommendation in *The FY 2010 Governor's Budget Report*. The bill would end out-of-home services for youth whose actions are detrimental, but have not resulted from abuse or neglect. Foster care savings arising from this bill would be partially offset by an increase in services designed to support the youth and their family by addressing behavior and conflict. SRS and community providers would support these families with case management, family preservation, and family services. SB 94 would be effective July 1, 2009, and would affect an estimated 298 different youth and reduce the foster care average monthly caseload by 170 in FY 2010. No children in the custody of the Secretary on June 30, 2009, would be affected by this policy change. Total estimated savings in foster care in FY 2010 are \$3,056,199. The savings would be offset by an estimated \$494,430 of additional costs incurred in family preservation and family services. These savings are currently included in *The FY 2010 Governor's Budget Report*.