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300 SW TENTH AVENUE • SUITE 24-E • TOPEKA, KS 66612 • (785) 296-2321

MEMORANDUM

To: House Committee on Welfare Reform

From: Office of Revisor of Statutes

Date: March 6, 2025

Subject: SB 85 (As Amended by Senate Committee)

Senate Bill No. 85 directs the secretary for children and families to enter into agreements with state agencies for the continuous review and comparison of data for public assistance eligibility.

To verify eligibility for the food assistance program, the secretary shall enter into datamatching agreements with state agencies to compare data related to households enrolled in food assistance and other state data sets. The secretary shall receive and review state information that may affect eligibility for the food assistance program from the office of vital statistics, department of labor, department of revenue, department of corrections, Kansas lottery and Kansas racing and gaming commission along with out-of-state electronic benefit transfer transactions.

The bill also requires the secretary to review and act on certain data from federal sources maintained by the department of health and human services, department of housing and urban development and the federal bureau of investigation.

On at least a quarterly basis, the secretary shall make available to the public on the Kansas department for children and families website data from findings of noncompliance and fraud investigations in food assistance for the following aggregate, nonconfidential and non-personally identifying information:

- (1) Number of households investigated for intentional program violations or fraud;
- (2) total number of households referred to the attorney general's office for prosecution;
- (3) improper payments and expenditures;
- (4) moneys received;
- (5) data concerning improper payments and ineligible recipients as a percentage of those investigated and reviewed; and
- (6) amount of funds expended by electronic benefit card transactions in each state outside of Kansas.

The senate committee on government efficiency amended SB 85 to remove the review of earned income information, death records, incarceration records, supplemental security income information, beneficiary records, earnings information and pension information maintained by the United States social security administration.

The Senate passed SB 89 on February 19, 2025, by a vote of 30-10.