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MEMORANDUM

To: Senate Committee on Ways and Means
From: Office of Revisor of Statutes
Date: March 10, 2026
Subject: Senate Bill 513 – As Introduced

Senate Bill 513 proposes one new section of law that would direct and authorize the Kansas department for children and families, in consultation with the Kansas office of early childhood, to administer the child care subsidy through and issue certain requests about software for distributing child care subsidy payments.

Subsection (a) directs the Kansas department for children and families, in coordination with the Kansas office of early childhood, to administer the child care subsidy program through a modern child care subsidy management and payment system that supports direct payments to child care providers that provide care to eligible child care subsidy recipients.

Such system shall include: (1) A child care provider login and portal that permits such providers to manage service records and payments; (2) capability for integration with existing state eligibility determination, licensing and financial systems; (3) secure communication tools for child care providers and state agency staff; (4) a help desk or customer assistance function for child care providers; and (5) program monitoring and integrity functionality for state program administrators.

Subsection (b) directs, before January 1, 2027, the Kansas department for children and families to work with the Kansas office of early childhood to issue a request for information for the system described in subsection (a). The request for information include the following: (1) System functionality and technical specifications; (2) options for modular or phased implementation; (3) estimated one-time and ongoing costs; (4) experience with federal child care and development fund requirements; and (5) an estimated timeline for statewide implementation.

Subsection (c) directs, before June 30, 2027, the Kansas department for children and families to submit a written report to the LCC, the House of Representatives committees on appropriations and health and human services and the Senate committees on ways and means and public health and welfare, or any successor committee. That report shall include: (1) A summary of responses to the request for information; (2) estimated costs for procurement, implementation and maintenance; (3) recommendations regarding issuance of a request for proposal including a procurement timeline not to exceed one calendar year from the submission of the report; (4) a proposed implementation timeline; and (5) any statutory changes necessary to support direct-to-provider payments.

Subsection (d) authorizes the department, in consultation with the Kansas office of early childhood, upon submission of the report and subject to appropriations or any available federal funds, to issue a request for proposal for the development, procurement and implementation of the system described in subsection (a).

If enacted, the section would become effective upon publication in the statute book.