

SENATE BILL No. 513

By Committee on Ways and Means

2-17

1 AN ACT concerning child care subsidy; relating to the Kansas department
2 for children and families and the Kansas office of early childhood;
3 directing such department, in consultation with such office, to issue a
4 request for information and a request for proposal for the development,
5 procurement and implementation of software to provide child care
6 subsidy payments to child care providers; requiring reports to the
7 legislature on such development, procurement and implementation.
8

9 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

10 Section 1. (a) The Kansas department for children and families, in
11 coordination with the Kansas office of early childhood, shall administer
12 the child care subsidy program, in accordance with K.S.A. 39-709, and
13 amendments thereto, through the development, procurement and
14 implementation of a modern child care subsidy management and payment
15 system capable of supporting the direct payment of child care subsidy to
16 eligible child care providers participating in the Kansas child care subsidy
17 program and providing care to eligible child care subsidy recipients. Such
18 system shall include, but not be limited to:

19 (1) A child care provider login and portal that permits such providers
20 to manage service records and payments;

21 (2) capability for integration with existing state eligibility
22 determination, licensing and financial systems;

23 (3) secure communication tools for child care providers and state
24 agency staff;

25 (4) a help desk or customer assistance function for child care
26 providers; and

27 (5) program monitoring and integrity functionality for state program
28 administrators.

29 (b) On or before January 1, 2027, the Kansas department for children
30 and families, in coordination with the Kansas office of early childhood,
31 shall issue a request for information from private vendors on a modern
32 child care subsidy management and payment system. Such request for
33 information issued by such department shall seek information on:

34 (1) System functionality and technical specifications;

35 (2) options for modular or phased implementation;

36 (3) estimated one-time and ongoing costs;

1 (4) experience with federal child care and development fund
2 requirements; and

3 (5) an estimated timeline for statewide implementation.

4 (c) On or before June 30, 2027, the Kansas department for children
5 and families shall submit a written report to the legislative coordinating
6 council and the house of representatives committees on appropriations and
7 health and human services and the senate committees on ways and means
8 and public health and welfare, or any successor committee. Such report
9 shall include:

10 (1) A summary of responses to the request for information;

11 (2) estimated costs for procurement, implementation and
12 maintenance;

13 (3) recommendations regarding issuance of a request for proposal
14 including a procurement timeline not to exceed one calendar year from the
15 submission of the report;

16 (4) a proposed implementation timeline; and

17 (5) any statutory changes necessary to support direct-to-provider
18 payments.

19 (d) Upon submission of such report required in subsection (c) and
20 subject to appropriations and applicable federal funds, or a combination
21 thereof, the Kansas department for children and families, in coordination
22 with the Kansas office of early childhood, shall issue a request for
23 proposal for the development, procurement and implementation of such
24 system described in subsection (a).

25 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
26 publication in the ~~statute book~~ *Kansas register*.