

January 27, 2023

The Honorable Susan Concannon, Chairperson
House Committee on Child Welfare and Foster Care
300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 152-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Concannon:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2194 by House Committee on Child Welfare and Foster Care

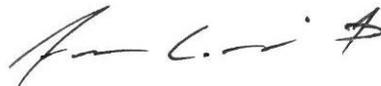
In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2194 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2194 would amend current law regarding the Kansas Code for Care of Children by enacting the Representative Gail Finney Foster Care Bill of Rights. The bill would list 18 rights for children in the foster care system, including the following: to be put in a stable environment; to experience the least number of placements possible; to have access to belongings, including adequate clothing and personal hygiene products; to have family visits; to attend school and receive a high school diploma; to attend all court hearings and be notified of all court hearings if appropriate; to address the court during hearings; to have privacy rights; to have access to attorneys and case managers; and to receive help when transitioning out of the welfare system.

For foster parents, the bill would list 20 rights for foster parents including the following: to be treated with dignity and not be discriminated against; to continue their own family values and beliefs; to have timely financial reimbursements and notification of their financial obligations; to discuss the child prior to placement with them; to request a transfer of placement; to have notification of court hearings; to attend court hearings; to have communication with various stakeholders; and to have continued contact with a previously placed child.

The Department for Children and Families and the Office of Judicial Administration indicate that HB 2194 would have no fiscal effect.

Sincerely,



Adam Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Vicki Jacobsen, Judiciary
Kim Holter, Department for Children & Families