

December 20th, 2013

Mr. Patrick O'Donnell
Clerk of the Legislature
RM 2108, State Capitol
PO Box 94604
Lincoln, NE 68509-4604

Mr. Clerk & Members of the Legislature,

In compliance with Nebraska Statute 50-424 the Health and Human Services Committee is providing you with the Child Welfare Reports Status report. The HHS Committee utilizes the listed reports to oversee the progress of the Department of Health and Human Services in implementing the recommendations the HHS Committee made in Legislative Resolution 37, One Hundred Second Legislature, First Session, 2011. In addition to the reports provided by the Department of Health and Human Services, the Child Welfare Reports Status list also includes the status of reports provided to the HHS Committee from the Nebraska Inspector General for Child Welfare, the Foster Care Review Office, the Child Advocacy Centers, the Office of Juvenile Services, the State Child Death Review Team and the Nebraska Children's Commission.

The HHS Committee continues to monitor the progress of child welfare through a variety of mechanisms including the attached reports, legislative hearings, and briefings. Towards that end, the HHS Committee will hold a hearing on January 9, 2013 at 1:30 to be briefed by Thomas Pristow (Director the Children and Family Services), Julie Rogers (Nebraska Inspector General of Child Welfare), Kim Hawekotte (Director of the Foster Care Review Office) and Karen Authier (Chairperson of the Nebraska Children's Commission). The purpose of the briefing is to:

- Review with the testifiers the various reports issued by their Office/Commission;
- Receive an update of current activities of their Office/Commission;
- Discuss from their perspectives any "red flags", challenges and positive outcomes of the child welfare system; and
- Be apprised of plans regarding future activities by their Office/Commission.

Thank you for your continued partnership as all three branches of state government, community officials, providers and stakeholders work together to continue improving the child welfare system and meeting the need of the children of Nebraska. Please contact us if we can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,



Senator Kathy Campbell

Cc: HHS Committee members

| LB/Statute | Report | By | To | Due |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---|--|
| LB 821 43-4331 | Summary of reports and investigations made under the Office of Inspector General of Nebraska Child Welfare Act for the preceding year | Inspector General | Legislature's Health and Human Services Committee Governor | September 15 annually (Completed 2013) |
| LB 998 Sec 5(4) 43-1303(4) | Regular updates regarding child welfare data and information at least quarterly and a fourth-quarter report (annual report) | Foster Care Review Office Executive Director | Legislature | March 15, 2013 June 17, 2013 September 20, 2013 Nov. 27, 2013 (2013 Completed) |
| 1160 Sec 6 43-4406 | Info regarding child welfare services with respect to children served by any lead agency or the pilot project and children served by the department | DHHS | The Legislature's Health and Human Services Committee | September 15, 2012 (and each Sept. 15 thereafter) (2013 Completed) |
| 1160 Sec 7(1) 43-4407(1) | Summary of surveys to monitor satisfaction of children, parents, foster parents, judges, guardians ad litem, attorneys representing parents, service providers | DHHS each service area administrator; any lead agency or pilot project | The Legislature's Health and Human Services Committee | September 15, 2012 (and each Sept. 15 thereafter) (2013 Completed*) * Inadequate survey for Judges (9), providers (16) and attorneys(61); results are not stratified by service area due to low response rates. |

| LB/Statute | Report | By | To | Due |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| 1160 Sec 7 (2) 43-4407(2) | Plan for the child and family implemented by the department, lead agency, or the pilot project and the status of compliance by the family with the plan | DHHS Each service area administrator; any lead agency or pilot project Child Advocacy Centers | Child advocacy center that corresponds with the geographic location of the child regarding the services provided when the child is a voluntary or non-court-involved child welfare case Legislature's Health and Human Services Committee | Monthly September 15, 2012 (and each Sept. 15 thereafter or more often if requested) (2013 Completed) |
| 1160 Sec 8 43-4408 | The department's monitoring of any lead agencies or the pilot project | DHHS | Legislature's Health and Human Services Committee | September 15, 2012 (and each Sept. 15 thereafter) (2013 Completed) |
| LB 1160 Sec 10 LB 1160 Sec 15(5) 71-825 | Final Report | The Children's Behavioral Health Oversight Committee of the Legislature | The Legislature's Health and Human Services Committee | 2013 Completed |
| LB 1160 Sec 11 43-296 | Report association's(s') condition, management, and competency to adequately care for such juveniles as are or may be committed to it and such other facts as the department may require | All associations receiving juveniles under the Nebraska Juvenile Code DHHS should forward the report | The department Legislature's Health and Human Services Committee | September 15, 2013 (2013 Completed) |
| LB 1160 Sec 12 43-405(6) | Report on monitored commitments, placements, and evaluations at facilities and programs operated by the office or through contracts with providers Plus an assessment of the administrative costs of operating the facilities, the cost of programming, and the savings realized through reductions in commitments, placements, and evaluations | Office of Juvenile Services | Legislature Legislature's Health and Human Services Committee | Annually September 15, 2013 (2013 Completed) September 15, 2014 |

| LB/Statute | Report | By | To | Due |
|------------------------------|---|------------------|---|---|
| LB 1160 Sec 13 43-534 | <p>Every <u>department, agency, institution, committee, and commission of state government</u> responsible for children and families shall submit, as part of the annual budget request, a comprehensive statement of the efforts taken to carry out the policy and principles set for in sections 43-532 and 43-533.</p> <p>For 2012, 2013, and 2014, the Department of Health and Human Services shall provide a copy of its statement submitted under this section to the Health and Human Services Committee The statement shall include, but not be limited to: a listing of programs; a summary of the expenses; the number of clients served by each program, and data demonstrating the short-term and long-term effectiveness</p> | DHHS DHHS | <p>Appropriations Committee</p> <p>Legislature's Health and Human Services Committee</p> <p>Health and Human Services Committee</p> | <p>Annually September 15, 2012 (Completed)</p> <p>September 15, 2013 (Completed) September 15, 2014</p> |
| LB 1160 Sec 14 68-1207.01 | Outline the caseloads of child protective services, the factors considered in their establishment, and the fiscal resources necessary for their maintenance | DHHS | <p>Legislature</p> <p>Governor</p> <p>Legislature's Health and Human Services Committee</p> | <p>Annually September 15, 2013 (Completed)</p> |

| LB/Statute | Report | By | To | Due |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| LB 1160 Sec 15 71-825 | Report on the operation of the Children and Family Support Hotline, the Family Navigator Program , and the provision of voluntary post-adoption and post-guardianship case management services | DHHS | Governor Legislature Legislature's Health and Human Services Committee | September 15, 2013 (Completed) |
| LB 1160 Sec 17(2) 71-1904 | Regarding foster care , report the number of waivers granted under this subsection and the total number of children placed in relative foster homes | DHHS | Legislature's Health and Human Services Committee | Annually September 15, 2013 (Completed) |
| LB 1160 Sec 18 71-3404 | Report the team's findings and recommendations for each of its duties | The State Child Death Review Team | Governor Legislature and the public Legislature's Health and Human Services Committee | Annually September 15, 2013 (Completed 2013 for deaths 2009) |
| LB 949 Sec 1 (1)(b) 81-3133(1)(b) | Expenditures for each quarter and the outcomes relating to such expenditures | Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)- Division of Children and Family Services | Legislature's Appropriations Committee Legislature's Health and Human Services Committee | Beginning after the third calendar quarter of 2012, within 30 days (Completed Oct. 2013) |

| LB/Statute | Report | By | To | Due |
|--------------------------|--|---|--|-------------------------|
| LB 1160 Sec 10 50-424 | Using reports required by 43-296 43-534 68-1207.01 71-825 71-1904 71-3407 43-405 (6) report on the progress made by the Department of Health and Human Services in implementing the recommendations of the HHS Committee in the LR 37 report | The Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature | Legislature; Governor; Chief Justice of the Supreme Court | (2013 Completed) |

