

February 9, 2012

Senator Kathy Campbell, Chair  
Health and Human Services Committee  
State Capitol

Dear Senator Campbell and members of the Health and Human Services Committee:

I would like to take this opportunity to call to the Committee's attention to a few technical issues related to LB 949.

- Section 1(1) of the bill would require the Division of Children and Family Services of the Department of Health and Human Services to provide expenditure reports for the preceding calendar quarter one day after the end of the quarter e.g. on October 1 for the July through September quarter. We currently produce expenditure reports 30 days following the end of a quarter. Thirty days following the end of a quarter is also a standard used by the Federal government. It would be nearly impossible for the Department to produce the required reports on the day following the end of the quarter as the language in LB 949 currently would require.
- Section 1 of the bill identifies June 1 as a date. This does not seem correct given the other dates in that section.
- Section 1 also speaks to "Beginning in 2012 ..." Some of these dates have passed or may pass before this bill becomes law creating some confusion.
- Section 1(2)(b) of the bill requires the Department to provide a report to the Health and Human Services Committee and to the Appropriations Committee in September 2013 and September 2015. The bill also amends Section 2 of the law which currently requires a report in even-numbered years by adding a provision that the report include "...goals, benchmarks, and progress reports required pursuant to section 1 of this act." The time requirements in Section 1 related to odd-numbered years and the requirement of Section 2 related to even-numbered years appear to be in conflict. Is this to be annual reporting on similar yet different content or reporting every two years on the same content?

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on these technical items within LB 949. Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Scot L. Adams, Ph.D., Interim Director  
Division of Children and Family Services

cc: Martha Carter  
Senator Harms