

Wm. Jeff Kahrs, Interim-Acting Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

January 10, 2012

Testimony of:

Wm. Jeff Kahrs, Interim-Acting Secretary
Gary Haulmark, Legislative Director
Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services
Topeka, Kansas

presented to:

The Hon. Pat Colloton and Honorable Members
of the Joint House-Senate
Corrections and Juvenile Justice
Oversight Committee:

SRS update on status of JJA programs for Joint Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice

Chair Colloton, Vice-Chair Brungardt, Ranking Member Gatewood and Honored Members:

The proposal to transfer programs has been tabled pending study of the matter. SRS would not be able to provide an accurate financial analysis until study is completed and we have a complete picture of any proposed changes.

SRS and JJA Commissioner Curtis have asked Chairman Reggie Robinson at the Kansas Advisory Group (KAG) to create an ad hoc committee to put together a proposal that will allow us to create a better interface between the Kansas Juvenile Justice Authority (JJA) and the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services (SRS).

We anticipate this committee will produce a study that includes recommendations on how best to make improvements in the current system and alignment, if any, that would better serve Kansas children and their families.

SRS and JJA have asked that this committee include representation from a wide range of interests, such as the Juvenile Corrections Advisory Board members representing urban and rural communities, law enforcement, one or more representatives from the Judicial Council Juvenile Offenders/Children in Need of Care Subcommittee, representatives from SRS and JJA and others who could offer constructive recommendations. Any recommendations that result would be brought up during the 2013 legislative session.

Thank you.

Wm. Jeff Kahrs
SRS Interim-Acting Secretary

House Corrections and Juvenile Justice
Committee
2012 Session
Date 1-11-11
Attachment # 2