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SENATE CHAMBER  
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COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS  
RANKING MEMBER: FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS  
ETHICS, ELECTIONS &  
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JOINT COMMITTEES  
MEMBER: RULES AND REGULATIONS  
FOR STATE AGENCIES  
CORRECTIONS AND JUVENILE  
JUSTICE OVERSIGHT

March 8, 2022

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB12**

House Committee on Children and Seniors

Chair: Representative Susan Concannon

Vice-Chair: Representative Charlotte Esau

Ranking Minority Member: Representative Jarrod Ousley

Representative Cheryl Helmer, Representative Jo Ella Hoye, Representative Timothy Johnson, Representative Lisa Moser, Representative Cindy Neighbor, Representative Patrick Penn, Representative Chuck Smith, Representative Kent Thompson, Representative Lindsay Vaughn and Representative Paul Waggoner

Good afternoon, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 12.

Over the years, we have heard about the problems within our child in need of care system. I appreciate the fact that the Secretary of the Department of Children and Families is actively working on making in-house policy changes. I believe the passage of Performance-Based Contracting Legislation will aide in solving some of the issues.

Senate Bill 12 was modeled after legislation that passed Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families which within DCF enforces performance-based contracts for Adoption and Foster Care Services. Since its passage, Washington's foster children have had exponentially better outcomes than before the state implemented performance-based contracts. Performance-based contracts will ensure that our Child Advocates are focused on providing satisfactory care for children and families in need, rather than increasing their intake loads. Senate Bill 12 provides an insurance mechanism for the state in two ways: Kansas children will receive the care they need and deserve, and our state will be able to hold providers accountable for their work.

Our state can and must do better for our most vulnerable children. I urge you to support Senate Bill 12 to enforce performance-based contracting for our children in need of care.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this legislation.

Senator Faust-Goudeau