

Kansas Department of

Social and Rehabilitation Services

Janet Schalansky, Secretary

Senate Judiciary
February 6, 2003

SB 56 - Putative Father Registry

Integrated Service Delivery
Candy Shively, Deputy Secretary

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Senator Vratil and members of the Committee, I am Candy Shively, Deputy Secretary Social and Rehabilitation Services. I appear today because it is important to provide children with the stability of a permanent, adoptive family as quickly and securely as we are able to do so.

Creation of a putative fathers' registry is intended to assure putative fathers have a means to formally register so they may assure and assert their rights in the event of efforts to terminate parental rights. The right to notice is in addition to rights already established under KSA Chapters 38 and 59. By registering, the putative father submits to Kansas court jurisdiction for the purpose of this act.

Currently putative fathers may register with SRS for the purpose of child support collection. However, no fathers have registered for this purpose.

Implementation would require one time start up costs to develop the registry data base and operation of the system would require staff to enter and distribute data pursuant to the requirements set out in the bill.

Thank you and I will stand for questions.