

**BILL SUMMARY**  
2nd Session of the 53rd Legislature

**Bill No.:** **HB 2300**  
**Version:** Conference Committee Substitute  
**Request Number:** **10575**  
**Author:** Representative Peterson et al  
**Date:** **5/24/2012**  
**Impact:** **\$0 above the Pinnacle Plan**  
**Min. \$788,993 plan costs-DHS**  
**Cost neutral-OCCY**  
**Minimal Cost-OJA**

**Research Analysis**

The CCS for HB 2300 transfers the authority to certify the children's shelters operated by the Department of Human Services (DHS) from the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth (OCCY) to the Office of Juvenile Affairs. The measure also:

- Modifies the criminal background check requirements for a trial reunification of a child with the child's parent(s) to apply only to an adult in the home who is not the parent, legal guardian or custodian of the child;
- Modifies the list of findings used by the court to establish that reasonable efforts to reunify a child with the child's parent(s) are not required;
- Prohibits children 6 years of age or younger from being placed in shelter care after June 30, 2012 and prohibits children 13 years of age or younger from being placed in a shelter after June 30, 2014, provided suitable alternative placements are available;
- Authorizes the Director of DHS to hire the Advocate General;
- Applies the standards used for investigations of abuse or neglect of children who are not in DHS custody to investigations of abuse or neglect of children who are in the department's custody; and
- Requires OCCY to implement the Oklahoma Mentoring Children of Incarcerated Parents Program.

Prepared By: Marcia Goff

**Fiscal Analysis**

According to DHS personnel, the measure will cost at least \$788,993 as provided in the legal settlement-Pinnacle Plan.

Prepared By: Andrea Kearney

**Other Considerations**

None

