

September 14, 2012

Patrick O'Donnell, Clerk of the Legislature
State Capitol, Room 2018
PO Box 94604
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509

Dear Mr. O'Donnell,

Nebraska Revised Statute 43-4209 requires the Department of Health and Human Services to report to the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature by September 15, 2012, on the status of the application for the demonstration project under section 43-4208.

The attached report provides an update regarding the status of the waiver application in accordance with statute.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Pristow', enclosed within a large, loopy oval shape.

Thomas D. Pristow, MSW, ACSW
Director, Division of Children and Family Services

REPORT TO:	Nebraska Legislature, Health and Human Services Committee
REPORT REQUIRED:	Neb. Rev. Stat. 43-4209
REPORT DATE:	September 15, 2012
CONTACT PERSON:	Sara Goscha, DHHS CFS Special Projects 402-471-8404

General Information

Legislative Bill 820 passed by the 102nd Legislature required that on or before September 30, 2013 the Department of Health and Human Services apply to the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services for approval of a demonstration project pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1320a-9 to obtain a waiver as provided in 42 U.S.C. 1320-9(b), as such section existed on January 1, 2012. The bill also created the Title IV-E Demonstration Project Committee to review the IV-E penetration rate for Nebraska, and to develop an implementation plan and timeline for the waiver application.

Progress Summary

The IV-E Demonstration Project Committee met on: June 21, July 13, and August 8, 2012. Analysis is underway regarding Nebraska's IV-E penetration rates and options for the waiver project. Consideration is being given to age ranges of children, caregiver capacities, family situations, regional and state-wide impact, evidence-based practices, the impact on child well-being, and other related factors. Following the 2012 Federal timeline, a letter of intent would need to be submitted in June 2013, with a full waiver application being submitted in July 2013.

The plan of the Department, in conjunction with the IV-E Demonstration Project Committee, is to continue to work on the development of an implementation plan and timeline to be submitted to the Legislature and Governor's office in December 2012. The committee will also offer recommendations on how the state's penetration rate could be increased. The Department continues to be on track to submit a letter of intent on or before June 2013, with the waiver application being submitted in July 2013.

The Department submitted the IV-E Demonstration Project Committee progress report on August 28, 2012. This report included progress toward the stated goals, and a copy of all meeting minutes.