

1.1 moves to amend H.F. No. 2135 as follows:

1.2 Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

1.3 "Section 1. **DIRECTION TO COMMISSIONER OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND**
1.4 **FAMILIES; CHILD WELFARE FISCAL ANALYSIS.**

1.5 Subdivision 1. **Child welfare fiscal analysis.** The commissioner of children, youth, and
1.6 families must contract with a third-party consultant selected according to subdivision 2, to
1.7 conduct a fiscal analysis to identify and make recommendations on how to best utilize all
1.8 available child welfare funding streams and federal resources for supporting children,
1.9 families, and county and Tribal child welfare service providers across Minnesota.

1.10 Subd. 2. **Fiscal analysis consultant selection.** The commissioner, with input from the
1.11 Association of Minnesota Counties, the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council, community
1.12 nonprofits, community providers, and other child welfare system stakeholders, must select
1.13 an independent third-party consultant to conduct the fiscal analysis required under this
1.14 section. The consultant must have expertise in and experience with child welfare systems
1.15 and conducting fiscal analyses.

1.16 Subd. 3. **Child welfare fiscal analysis requirements.** When conducting the child welfare
1.17 fiscal analysis under this section, the third-party consultant must evaluate:

1.18 (1) financial systems in Minnesota's child welfare system and funding sources available
1.19 to the child welfare system; and

1.20 (2) state, county, and Tribal access to and use of funding or reimbursements for expenses
1.21 related to child welfare, including but not limited to legal representation, training, and
1.22 prevention services, under federal Title IV-E and Title IV-B, the federal Child Abuse
1.23 Prevention and Treatment Act, TANF, Medicaid, the federal Social Services Block Grant
1.24 Program, and other federal funds.

2.1 Subd. 4. Stakeholder engagement. The third-party consultant conducting the fiscal
2.2 analysis under this section must engage with community child welfare service providers;
2.3 state, county, and Tribal social services agencies; and other individuals or organizations
2.4 with expertise in child welfare services, as the consultant determines to be appropriate.

2.5 Subd. 5. Report on fiscal analysis. By June 30, 2027, the third-party consultant
2.6 conducting the child welfare fiscal analysis under this section must submit a report to the
2.7 commissioner of children, youth, and families and the chairs and ranking minority members
2.8 of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over the child welfare system. The report
2.9 must include the findings from the fiscal analysis required in this section and
2.10 recommendations on:

2.11 (1) how to maximize the state's receipt and use of child welfare funding streams and
2.12 federal resources; and

2.13 (2) legislative proposals for any statutory or funding changes necessary to maximize the
2.14 state's receipt and use of child welfare funding streams and federal resources.

2.15 Subd. 6. Tribal participation. Each of Minnesota's 11 federally recognized Tribal
2.16 Nations may participate in the fiscal analysis required under this section. Tribal Nations
2.17 that choose to participate have sovereignty over data they choose to share with the consultant,
2.18 or other individuals or entities, and may request that their data not be included in any public
2.19 documents.

2.20 Sec. 2. APPROPRIATION; CHILD WELFARE FISCAL ANALYSIS.

2.21 \$..... in fiscal year 2026 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of
2.22 children, youth, and families, to contract with a third-party consultant to conduct an
2.23 independent fiscal analysis of the child welfare system in Minnesota. This is a onetime
2.24 appropriation and is available until expended."

2.25 Amend the title accordingly