Senator Heard

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Department of Human Services Kinship Navigator Program

On February 21st, the Human Services Subcommittee recommended approval of the submission of a federal grant application from the Department of Human Services to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children, Youth, and Families, in the amount of \$301,558 to support kinship navigator program development.

Kinship navigator programs assist grandparents and other relatives providing care to children who are unable to live with their parents, by helping them find and use programs and services to meet the needs of the children they are raising. With funding from a previously approved federal grant, Child Welfare is adopting a program model and developing associated tools, educational materials, and outreach channels. This second grant will help the agency, through community partners and contractors, put the program into operation and ensure it meets federal certification standards.

The federal dollars do not require state cost-sharing or matching. The agency's grant application is due March 15, 2019.

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends approval.