ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 515–COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

(ON BEHALF OF THE JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES)

MARCH 24, 2025

Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to adoption assistance programs. (BDR 38-355)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets [~~omitted material~~] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to the protection of children; revising provisions relating to certain categorical grants to fund the adoption assistance program; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

Existing federal law requires each child welfare agency to calculate savings realized from expanded eligibility for children under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act, known as "adoption savings," and reinvest an equal amount in the state's child welfare system. (42 U.S.C. § 673(a)(8)(D)) Existing law requires the Division of Child and Family Services of the Department of Health and Human Services to provide a categorical grant to each agency which provides child welfare services in a county whose population is 100,000 or more (currently Clark and Washoe Counties) for each fiscal year for its adoption assistance program. Existing law requires the Division to base the amount of such a categorical grant on the estimated cost of the projected growth in the adoption assistance program. (NRS 432B.219) This bill requires the Division to additionally base the amount of such a categorical grant on the adoption savings calculated for the immediately preceding fiscal year pursuant to federal law.

Under existing law, any money remaining from such a categorical grant that has not been used or committed for expenditure by the agency by the end of the fiscal year reverts to the State General Fund in most cases. However, existing law provides that the portion of such money remaining at the end of a fiscal year that is identified as adoption savings does not revert until the end of the immediately following fiscal year. Existing law authorizes the agency which provides child welfare services that received the categorical grant to use that money for any costs

of providing child welfare services without restriction during that fiscal year. (NRS 432B.219) This bill authorizes an agency which provides child welfare services to continue to use such money for any such costs for an additional fiscal year before the money reverts to the State General Fund.

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THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

**Section 1.** NRS 432B.219 is hereby amended to read as follows:

432B.219 1. The Division of Child and Family Services shall provide a categorical grant to each agency which provides child welfare services for each fiscal year for its adoption assistance program to the extent that money has been appropriated to the Division for that purpose. The amount of the grant must be based upon ~~[the]~~ ***:***

***(a) The*** estimated cost of the projected growth in the adoption assistance program ~~[.]~~ ***; and***

***(b) The amount identified as savings pursuant to the calculation required under 42 U.S.C. § 673(a)(8)(A), reported at the end of the immediately preceding fiscal year.***

2. The amount of the grant awarded pursuant to subsection 1 must be determined for 2 years beginning on July 1 of each odd-numbered year and allocated each fiscal year.

3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4:

(a) An agency which provides child welfare services that receives a grant pursuant to subsection 1 must use the money allocated only for costs associated with the adoption assistance program.

(b) Any money from the grant awarded pursuant to subsection 1 that has not been used or committed for expenditure by the agency which provides child welfare services by the end of the fiscal year reverts to the State General Fund.

4. The portion of any money remaining at the end of a fiscal year from a grant awarded pursuant to subsection 1 that is identified as savings pursuant to the calculation required under 42 U.S.C. § ~~[673(a)(8)(D)(ii)]~~ ***673(a)(8)(A)*** does not revert to the State General Fund and may be carried forward to the next ***2*** fiscal ~~[year]~~ ***years*** and used for any costs of providing child welfare services without restriction. Any such money identified as savings that has not been used or committed for expenditure by the agency which provides child welfare services by the end of the ***second*** fiscal year to which the money was carried forward reverts to the State General Fund.

**Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2025.

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