



General Assembly

February Session, 2010

Raised Bill No. 353

LCO No. 1726

01726_____HS_

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:
(HS)

AN ACT ADOPTING A FOSTER PARENT BILL OF RIGHTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2010*) There is established a
2 foster parent bill of rights for any person who is licensed as a foster
3 parent by the Department of Children and Families. The foster parent
4 bill of rights shall require the department to:

5 (1) Treat foster parents with consideration and respect;

6 (2) Notify the foster parent of meetings scheduled by the
7 department concerning the foster child in order to allow the foster
8 parent to actively participate and have input into the case-planning
9 and decision-making process regarding the foster child;

10 (3) Provide the foster parent with support services to assist in the
11 care of the foster child that are consistent with the foster child's
12 approved permanency plan;

13 (4) Provide the foster parent open, complete and timely responses to
14 requests;

15 (5) Provide the foster parent with timely information concerning the
16 foster child's medical history, general behavior and relationships with
17 other foster parents, as permitted under state and federal law;

18 (6) Provide the foster parent with timely information concerning the
19 educational history, life experiences and placement circumstances of
20 the foster child, as permitted under state and federal law;

21 (7) Provide the foster parent information on all department policies
22 and procedures that relate to the role of a foster parent;

23 (8) Provide the foster parent appropriate training to enhance
24 relevant skills and abilities of the foster parent;

25 (9) Provide the foster parent (A) information on services that are
26 available through the department, and (B) contact information that
27 allows the foster parent to contact the department twenty-four hours,
28 seven days a week;

29 (10) Provide an opportunity for the foster parent to be heard
30 regarding department decisions and practices, and not retaliate against
31 a foster parent who questions or appeals a decision or practice of the
32 department;

33 (11) Provide the foster parent a copy of the foster parent bill of
34 rights when a child is placed in foster care with the foster parent and
35 upon request of the foster parent; and

36 (12) Any licensed foster parent aggrieved by a violation of this
37 section, may petition the Superior Court for the venue district
38 provided in section 46b-142 of the general statutes within which the
39 foster parent resides for appropriate relief, including temporary and
40 permanent injunctive relief. Such petition shall be treated as a juvenile
41 matter.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2010</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To adopt a foster parent bill of rights.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]