



General Assembly

January Session, 2011

Raised Bill No. 844

LCO No. 2585

02585_____KID

Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Children

Introduced by:
(KID)

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, 2011*) (a) 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 the foster parent 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 with open, complete and timely
14 responses to requests;

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

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

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

25 (9) Provide the foster parent with (A) information on services that
26 are available through the department, and (B) contact information that
27 allows the foster parent to contact the department at any time;

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

32 (11) Provide the foster parent with notice of the right to petition the
33 Superior Court as described in subsection (b) of this section; and

34 (12) Provide the foster parent with a copy of the foster parent bill of
35 rights (A) when a child is placed in foster care with the foster parent,
36 and (B) upon request of the foster parent.

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

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

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| Section 1 | <i>October 1, 2011</i> | New section |
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Statement of Purpose:

To establish 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.]