

Chapter: 188

Session: 2018 Regular Session

Topic: Child foster care

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Overview

This act modifies child foster care training requirements, requires changes to the Minnesota assessment of parenting for children and youth (MAPCY) tool, and establishes the foster care sibling bill of rights.

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- 1 **Child foster care training requirement; mental health training; fetal alcohol spectrum disorders training.** Amends § 245A.175. Modifies the child foster care licensing training requirements by requiring at least one hour of training on fetal alcohol spectrum disorders per year, which must be counted towards the 12 hours of annual training required.
- 2 **Minnesota assessment of parenting for children and youth (MAPCY) revision.** Amends § 256N.24, subd. 2a. Requires the Commissioner of Human Services, in consultation with representatives from communities of color, to review and revise the MAPCY tool that is used to determine eligibility for Northstar Care for Children benefits, and incorporate changes that take into consideration different cultures and the diverse needs of communities of color.
- 3 **Foster care sibling bill of rights.** Proposes coding for § 260C.008.

Subd. 1. Statement of rights. Lists the rights of siblings placed in foster care, and the right of adult siblings of children in foster care to be considered as foster care providers and relative custodians for their siblings.

Subd. 2. Interpretation. Specifies the interpretation of the rights in subdivision 1; provides that the rights do not replace or diminish other rights, liberties, and responsibilities that may exist for children in foster care.

Subd. 3. Disclosure. Requires child welfare agency staff to provide a copy of the rights in subdivision 1 to: a child with a sibling at the time the child enters foster care, any known adult siblings, and the foster care provider. Requires that the copy contain

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contact information for the Office of Ombudsman for Families and instructions on how to file a complaint.

Makes the section effective for children entering foster care on or after August 1, 2018, and makes subdivision 3 effective and apply to all children in foster care on August 1, 2018.