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Overview

This bill establishes a foster care sibling bill of rights and provides interpretation and disclosure requirements for children with siblings entering foster care.

Section

1 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 that a copy of the rights in subdivision 1 be provided 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 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, regardless of when the child entered foster care.