

Subject Preventing foster care placement kinship grant program; relative caregiver support

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Overview

This bill establishes the preventing foster care placement kinship grant program to provide support and connection to resources for relative kinship caregivers, and appropriates money for the grant program. The bill also appropriates money for grants to provide support to current and prospective relative caregivers.

Summary

Section	Description
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1	Preventing foster care placement kinship grant program.
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Proposes coding for § 256E.40.

Subd. 1. Establishment. Establishes the preventing foster care placement kinship grant program for eligible community-based nonprofit organizations to provide support and connection to resources for relative kinship caregivers caring for relative children. Provides cross-reference to definition of “relative.”

Subd. 2. Eligible grantees. Describes required criteria for eligible community-based nonprofit organizations to be eligible for grant funding.

Subd. 3. Allowable uses of grant funds. Allows grant funds to be used to assess relative kinship caregiver and child needs, provide connection to resources, provide case management, and provide supports to reduce the need for child welfare involvement or risk of child welfare involvement.

2	Transfer to the Department of Children, Youth, and Families.
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Specifies that responsibility for the grant program will transfer to the Department of Children, Youth, and Families once the new department is operational.

3	Appropriation; preventing foster care placement kinship grant program.
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Appropriates \$2,200,00 in fiscal year 2025 from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for the grant program established in this bill.

Section	Description
	Specifies that any federal matching funds received related to the grant program must be used for the grant program. Specifies that the base appropriation is \$3,600,000 in fiscal years 2026 and 2027.
4	Appropriation; support for relative caregivers. Appropriates \$3,900,000 in fiscal year 2025 from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for grants to eligible agencies to deliver individualized support services to current and prospective relative caregivers. Provides cross-reference to definition of “relative.” Specifies grantee activities; requires the commissioner to prioritize grant awards to public and private licensing agencies that demonstrate expertise in supporting relative caregivers.



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