

Subject Family Foster Care and Adoption Legislative Task Force

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Overview

This bill establishes the Family Foster Care and Adoption Legislative Task Force, consisting of 18 members, to evaluate and make recommendations on improving foster care licensing and adoption and kinship placement processes, and ensuring that children with disabilities have necessary care in out-of-home placements.

Summary

Section	Description
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1	Family Foster Care and Adoption Legislative Task Force.
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Subd. 1. Establishment; duties. Establishes the task force and states the purpose of the task force. Requires the task force to evaluate and make recommendations on:

- establishing required timelines for foster care licensing, adoption studies, and medical disclosures to prospective foster and kinship caregivers and adoptive parents;
- providing specialized case managers for children who are medically fragile or who have severe disabilities;
- ensuring additional support and training for foster parents caring for children with severe disabilities; and
- providing additional channels for foster care licensees and kinship or adoptive caregivers to submit concerns or complaints about licensing, placement procedures, and child safety.

Subd. 2. Membership. Lists the 19 members of the task force; requires that appointments be made by August 1, 2024. Specifies member compensation and expense reimbursement.

Subd. 3. Chair; meetings. Requires the first meeting to be cochaired by the majority house and senate task force members, and convened by the Legislative

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Coordinating Commission by August 15, 2024. Specifies procedures for selecting a chair and vice chair, and that meetings are subject to the Open Meeting Law.

Subd. 4. Administrative support. Requires the Legislative Coordinating Commission to provide administrative support and meeting space.

Subd. 5. Report. Requires the task force to submit a report to the legislature by January 1, 2026, on the task force's evaluation and recommendations conducted according to subdivision 1.

Subd. 6. Expiration. Specifies that the task force expires when the report is submitted, or on January 1, 2026, whichever is later.

Makes this section effective the day following final enactment.

2 **Appropriation; Family Foster Care and Adoption Legislative Task Force.**

Appropriates money from the general fund in fiscal year 2025 to the Legislative Coordinating Commission for the task force.



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