

SUBSTITUTE FOR  
HOUSE BILL NO. 5183

(As amended, February 11, 2004)

A bill to amend 1939 PA 280, entitled  
"The social welfare act,"  
(MCL 400.1 to 400.119b) by adding section 18e.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1       Sec. 18e. (1) The family independence agency shall  
2 establish and administer a state plan for foster care according  
3 to the provisions of part E of title IV of the social security  
4 act, 42 USC 670 to 679b. The state plan shall include programs  
5 and services that promote, implement, and support foster care  
6 focus groups. When developing <<and annually reviewing  
7       >> the state plans to carry out foster care policy and  
8 services, the family independence agency shall utilize input from  
9 locally-based foster care focus groups.  
10       (2) Foster care focus groups shall be composed of youth in  
11 foster care or independent living programs, youth previously in

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1 foster care, << >> foster parents or relatives caring for youth in  
2 foster care <<, and adults previously in foster care or independent  
living programs>>. The majority of the focus group consists of youth  
3 in foster care or independent living programs.

4 (3) In order to inform the legislature, the executive office,  
5 the judiciary, and the public of the needs and interests of youth  
6 in foster care, foster parents, and relatives caring for youth in  
7 foster care, the foster care focus groups are encouraged to be  
8 established in both of the following:

9 (a) Licensed child placing agencies with which the family  
10 independence agency contracts for youth foster care services that  
11 have an annual average daily foster care caseload of 150 or more  
12 cases or that derives more than 50% of its operating budget from  
13 contracts with the family independence agency for youth foster  
14 care services.

15 (b) Counties in which the family independence agency has an  
16 annual average daily foster care caseload of 150 or more cases.

17 (4) State and federal funds appropriated to implement state  
18 plans in compliance with part E of title IV of the social  
19 security act, 42 USC 670 to 679b and state laws may be used to  
20 meet the provisions of this section.