

HOUSE BILL No. 4977

October 13, 2015, Introduced by Reps. Runestad, Hovey-Wright, Darany, Kosowski, Faris, Schor, Kivela, Kelly, Cochran, Victory, Pagel, Durhal, Hooker, Webber, Love, Chirkun, Zemke, LaVoy, Greig, Brinks, LaFontaine, Yanez, Lane, Dianda, Geiss, Wittenberg, Liberati, Plawecki, Derek Miller, Santana, Moss, Callton, Vaupel, Lyons, Crawford, Talabi, Bumstead, Iden, McCready, Lucido, Kesto and Hoadley and referred to the Committee on Families, Children, and Seniors.

A bill to amend 1994 PA 203, entitled
"Foster care and adoption services act,"
(MCL 722.951 to 722.960) by adding section 8c.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 SEC. 8C. IN ADDITION TO THE SPECIFIC POLICY DESCRIBED IN
2 SECTIONS 8B AND 8D, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DRAFT AND MAINTAIN A
3 SPECIFIC POLICY FOR FOSTER CHILDREN AS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION.
4 THIS SPECIFIC POLICY SHALL BE IMPLEMENTED BY NO LATER THAN 90 DAYS
5 AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE AMENDATORY ACT THAT ADDED THIS
6 SECTION AND SHALL, IN ADDITION TO THE PROVISIONS OF SECTIONS 8B AND
7 8D, ADDRESS THE FOSTER CHILD'S ACCESS TO THE FOLLOWING AS AGE-
8 APPROPRIATE AND AS MANDATED BY THE COURT:

9 (A) REGULAR CONTACT WITH ALL OF THE FOSTER CHILD'S
10 CASEWORKERS, ATTORNEYS, AND ADVOCATES.

11 (B) RELEVANT INFORMATION REGARDING A CHANGE IN THE FOSTER

1 CHILD'S CASEWORKER OR ATTORNEY.

2 (C) THE FOSTER CHILD'S ABILITY TO ATTEND HEARINGS AND REQUEST
3 TO SPEAK WITH THE JUDGE PRESIDING OVER THE FOSTER CHILD'S CASE.

4 (D) REASONABLE NOTIFICATION OF HEARINGS.

5 (E) INVOLVEMENT IN THE FOSTER CHILD'S OWN CASE PLAN
6 DEVELOPMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF A PLAN FOR HIS OR HER FUTURE AND
7 AGING OUT OF THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM.

8 (F) HELP WITH UNDERSTANDING THE SERVICES AVAILABLE TO FOSTER
9 CHILDREN AND HOW TO ACCESS THOSE SERVICES.

10 (G) A PERMANENT PLAN FOR PLACEMENT AND THE FOSTER CHILD'S
11 PARTICIPATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THAT PLAN.

12 (H) PROTECTION OF THE FOSTER CHILD'S PRIVACY AND
13 CONFIDENTIALITY REGARDING HIS OR HER CASE.

14 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect
15 unless all of the following bills of the 98th Legislature are
16 enacted into law:

17 (a) Senate Bill No. ____ or House Bill No. 4976 (request no.
18 00541'15 *).

19 (b) Senate Bill No. ____ or House Bill No. 4978 (request no.
20 01442'15 *).