SENATE BILL No. 1001

May 16, 2018, Introduced by Senator MACGREGOR and referred to the Committee on Oversight.

A bill to amend 1994 PA 203, entitled

"Foster care and adoption services act,"

by amending section 8 (MCL 722.958), as amended by 2015 PA 106.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

- 1 Sec. 8. (1) The department shall promulgate rules under the
- 2 administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to
- 3 24.328, to ensure the comprehensive, high-quality training of
- 4 foster care and adoption workers. The department shall consult and
- 5 may contract with colleges and universities, child placing
- 6 agencies, and professional organizations for the design and
- 7 implementation of the training. The training shall stress cultural
- 8 sensitivity, interagency cooperation, and respect for individuals
- 9 and families.

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- 1 (2) The department shall maintain a directory of children
- 2 under the jurisdiction of the department who are available for
- 3 adoption. The department shall ensure that interested individuals
- 4 have reasonable access to the directory.
- 5 (3) The department shall maintain a registry of adoptive homes
- 6 to be used as a central clearinghouse for information about
- 7 prospective adoptive parents. The department shall accept
- 8 information from a prospective adoptive parent who has received a
- 9 preplacement assessment with a finding that the individual is
- 10 suitable to be the parent of an adoptee. The information shall be
- 11 filed in a form and manner that will permit it to be readily
- 12 accessible to biological parents or child placing agencies seeking
- 13 adoptive homes for children. The department shall provide
- 14 information in the registry without charge to biological parents or
- 15 child placing agencies who request it.
- 16 (4) The department may establish as pilot projects foster
- 17 parent resource centers. Each resource center shall provide at
- 18 least support for and coordination of respite care and assistance
- 19 to foster parents in obtaining day CHILD care. Resource center
- 20 staff shall pursue other activities designed to promote permanency
- 21 for children, particularly children with special needs, such as
- 22 support aimed at retaining foster parents. The department may fund
- 23 the pilot foster parent resource centers using money appropriated
- 24 to the department for the current fiscal year. After the pilot
- 25 project has been in operation for 2 years, the department shall
- 26 evaluate the pilot project on its organization, effectiveness, and
- 27 success. The department shall report the results of this evaluation

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- 1 to the legislature, including in the report the number of foster
- 2 parents who utilized the particular resource center and the top 10
- 3 concerns raised by those foster parents and how those concerns were
- 4 handled.
- 5 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect 90 days
- 6 after the date it is enacted into law.