

HOUSE BILL NO. 4550

May 02, 2019, Introduced by Reps. Brenda Carter and Crawford and referred to the Committee on Families, Children, and Seniors.

A bill to amend 2008 PA 260, entitled
"Guardianship assistance act,"
by amending section 4 (MCL 722.874), as amended by 2015 PA 227.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 4. (1) Subject to subsection (2), a guardian who meets
2 all of the following criteria may receive guardianship assistance
3 on behalf of an eligible child:

4 (a) The guardian is the eligible child's relative or legal
5 custodian.



1 (b) The guardian is a licensed foster parent and approved for
2 guardianship assistance by the department. The approval process
3 shall include criminal record checks and child abuse and **child**
4 neglect central registry checks on the guardian, **all successor**
5 **guardians**, and all adults living in the guardian's **or successor**
6 **guardian's** home as well as **national and state** fingerprint-based
7 criminal record checks on the guardian **or successor guardians**. ~~If~~
8 ~~the guardian's fingerprints are stored in the automated fingerprint~~
9 ~~identification system under section 5k of 1973 PA 116, MCL~~
10 ~~722.115k, the department shall use those fingerprints for the~~
11 ~~criminal record check required in this subdivision.~~

12 (c) The eligible child has resided with the prospective
13 guardian in the prospective guardian's residence for a minimum of 6
14 months before the application for guardianship assistance is
15 received by the department.

16 (2) Only a relative who is a licensed foster parent caring for
17 a child who is eligible to receive title IV-E-funded foster care
18 payments for 6 consecutive months is eligible for federal funding
19 under title IV-E for guardianship assistance. A child who is not
20 eligible for title IV-E funding who is placed with a licensed
21 foster parent, related or unrelated, and who meets the requirements
22 of section 3(a) to (e) may be eligible for state-funded
23 guardianship assistance.

24 (3) If a child is eligible for title IV-E-funded guardianship
25 assistance under section 3 but has a sibling who is not eligible
26 under section 3, both of the following apply:

27 (a) The child and any of the child's siblings may be placed in
28 the same relative guardianship arrangement in accordance with
29 chapter XIIIA of the probate code, **MCL 712A.1 to 712A.32**, if the



1 department and the relative agree on the appropriateness of the
2 arrangement for the sibling.

3 (b) Title IV-E-funded relative guardianship assistance
4 payments may be paid on behalf of each sibling placed in accordance
5 with this subsection.

6 (4) A successor guardian may receive guardianship assistance
7 payments if the eligibility criteria set forth in section 3 are
8 met.

9 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect 90 days
10 after the date it is enacted into law.

