

DCS Legislative Overview 2023

Presented by:

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Senate Bill 1720 – GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT; 2023-2024 (KAVANAGH)

Visitation Aides

- Adds 80 FTE for Visitation Aides

Fleet Vehicle Replacement

- Appropriates \$2,300,000 for 50 vehicles

Adoption Incentive Backfill

- Appropriates \$2,000,000 to backfill loss of federal funds

Positive Parenting Program

- Appropriates \$4,000,000 for Triple P for post-permanency placements

Congregate Care Backfill

- Appropriates \$10,900,000 to backfill loss of federal funds



Senate Bill 1720 – GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT; 2023-2024 (KAVANAGH)

Emergency Shelter and Transitional Living

- Appropriates \$10,000,000

Extended Foster Care Service Model Fund

- Appropriates \$12,600,000 to the Extended Foster Care Service Model Fund



Senate Bill 1728 – HUMAN SERVICES; 2023-2024 (KAVANAGH)

Extended Foster Care Comprehensive Service Model

- Requires DCS to implement an Extended Foster Care Comprehensive Service Model that includes supportive services and case management provided by contracted community providers for young adults who participate in the program.



House Bill 2213 – CASE MANAGEMENT; REMOTE ACCESS; REQUIREMENTS (GRIFFIN)

Requires DCS to provide the Supreme Court access to all automated case management systems used by DCS for the Court to use to assist a local Foster Care Review Board in performing the Board's duties.

Specifies that if the information is not available through the automated case management systems used by DCS, DCS must provide the Court with a hard copy of all records kept by DCS for the Court to use in assisting the Board in performing its duties.



House Bill 2313 – CHILD PLACEMENT; RELATIVE SEARCH; NOTICE (JONES)

Expands DCS procedures for conducting a search to identify and notify adult relatives or persons with a significant relationship with a child in out-of-home care.



Senate Bill 1205 – FOSTER CHILDREN; EDUCATION; BEST INTEREST (KAISER)

Requires that a best interest determination meeting be conducted to determine if it is in the child's best interest to remain in their school of origin within 5 days of a child entering out-of-home care or changing living arrangements.

Requires DCS and the LEA to ensure that a child receives transportation to the educational institution determined to be in the child's best interest.

Requires DCS and ADE to adopt an arbitration process to promptly resolve disputes regarding a child's transportation to school.

Adds reporting requirements to the DCS Semi-Annual Child Welfare Report regarding best interest determinations for foster children.



Senate Bill 1186 – FOSTER CARE; CHILDREN; PARENTS; RIGHTS (Bennett)

Expands the rights of foster parents and kinship caregivers and children.

Outlines the rights of parents, guardians, and custodians that are under investigation for an allegation of abuse or neglect.



House Bill 2516 – CHILD ABUSE; INVESTIGATIONS; FORENSIC INTERVIEWS (PARKER B)

Clarifies that a person who takes a child into temporary custody due to exigent circumstances shall immediately have the child forensically interviewed by a person trained in forensic interviewing pursuant to a protocol established in A.R.S. 8-817.

Allows a person who takes a child into custody due to exigent circumstances to have the child examined by a physician or health care provider who has specific training in evaluating child abuse.



THANK YOU!

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