

Juvenile and Family Law

H.B. 8

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Manchester and Galonski

Effective date: January 22, 2021

- Eliminates the statutory minimum preplacement training hours for family foster homes and specialized foster homes in favor of rules adopted by the Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS).
- Permits up to 20% of preplacement training to be provided online.
- Eliminates the statutory minimum continuing training hours for family foster homes and specialized foster homes in favor of rules adopted by ODJFS.
- Removes the statutory hour and training requirements for foster caregivers of a child under a temporary custody agreement in favor of requirements adopted in ODJFS rules.
- Requires planned permanent living arrangement caregivers to complete training as developed and implemented by ODJFS rules.
- Repeals statutory coursework and training requirements in favor of requirements adopted in ODJFS rules.
- Repeals statutory needs assessment and continuing training plan requirements in favor of requirements adopted in ODJFS rules.
- Requires compensation in the form of an allowance for the cost of training pursuant to the rules adopted by ODJFS.
- Requires ODJFS to adopt rules for compensating a recommending agency for a foster caregiver's foster home certification and recertification training that the private child placing agency or a private noncustodial agency requires, if it is in addition to the minimum continuing training required by ODJFS rules.
- Eliminates the statutory maximum number of children a foster home may receive in favor of rules adopted by ODJFS.
- Requires, at a frequency established by ODJFS rules, instead of every two years under former law, that an association or institution that receives, or desires to receive and care for children, or places children in private homes:
 - Be inspected and certified or recertified; and
 - Submit a report to ODJFS containing certain things, including information on its condition, management, and competency, if it desires certification or recertification.

- Provides that ODJFS certification of an association or institution that receives, or desires to receive and care for children, or places children in private homes, be valid for a length of time determined by ODJFS rules instead of every two years under former law.