



ARIZONA STATE SENATE
Fifty-First Legislature, Second Regular Session

AMENDED
FACT SHEET FOR S.B. 1309

court-ordered services; dependent children

Purpose

Permits the court to order services supplemental to those provided by the Department of Economic Security (DES) if available at no cost to the state and allows the superior court to enter into agreement for the use of facilities for juvenile shelter or treatment services.

Background

Current law provides that if a child has been removed from the home, the court is required to order DES to make reasonable efforts to provide services to the child and the child's parent. Unless the court, after considering certain factors, determines by clear and convincing evidence that reunification services should not be provided, a case plan is developed and DES is ordered to provide reunification services.

According to DES's website, the case plan identifies the case goal for the child, the services and supports needed to achieve the desired behavioral changes, including those services that will assure the child's health, behavior, educational, and independent living needs if applicable, the person responsible and the planned date of review.

When a case plan is required, a child protective services (CPS) specialist visits with family members to determine what services are needed. The services are to help the family deal with problems and work toward a goal of family reunification and may include the following: 1) assistance with obtaining food, housing, clothing and medical care; 2) psychological evaluations; 3) counseling; 4) day care; 5) parent aide services; 6) parenting skills training; 7) educational programs, job training or vocational rehabilitation; 8) drug or alcohol treatment programs; or 9) peer self-help groups.

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this measure.

Provisions

1. Allows the presiding superior court judge to enter into agreement for the use of appropriate facilities that are available to the juvenile court, for the use by a provider of juvenile shelter or treatment services.
2. Allows the court to order services on agreement of the provider, if the court determines that supplemental services to those provided by DES are available at no cost to the state.

3. Allows the court to employ individuals to facilitate collaboration and ensure the delivery of court-ordered services.
4. Stipulates the employee has access to all information necessary to ensure service delivery regarding the child and the child's family without obtaining prior approval and may disclose information as outlined in current law relating to confidential information.
5. Makes technical and conforming changes.
6. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

Amendment adopted by Committee of the Whole

1. Allows a superior court to enter into agreement to use facilities for juvenile services.
2. Stipulates the type of information received by court employees facilitating services.
3. Removes provisions that would prohibit DES from requiring duplicate services if a person is receiving services from a non-contracted provider.

Senate Action

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Prepared by Senate Research

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