

Sen. Carson, Dist 14  
Sen. Avard, Dist 12  
April 12, 2018  
2018-1490s  
05/04

Amendment to HB 1562-FN

1 Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

2

3 AN ACT relative to collaboration between the department of health and human services and  
4 foster parents.  
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6 Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

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8 1 New Subdivision; Foster Parents. Amend RSA 170-E by inserting after section 50 the  
9 following new subdivision:

10 Foster Parents

11 170-E:51 Collaboration Between the Department of Health and Human Services and Foster  
12 Parents. The general court finds that foster parents providing care for children who are in the  
13 custody of the department of health and human services play an integral, indispensable, and vital  
14 role in the department's effort to care for dependent children displaced from their homes. The  
15 general court further finds that it is in the best interest of the department of health and human  
16 services to acknowledge foster parents as active and participating members of this system and to  
17 support them through the following foster parent rights, as primary caregivers for children in the  
18 care and custody of the state of New Hampshire.

19 170-E:52 Foster Parents. When a child is placed in a foster home pursuant to a juvenile court  
20 order:

21 I. The foster parent shall be treated with consideration and respect as a primary provider  
22 for the foster child.

23 II. The department of health and human services shall consult with the foster parent prior  
24 to the release of the foster parent's address, phone number, or other personally identifying  
25 information to the child's parent or guardian.

26 III. The foster parent shall be given timely notice of scheduled meetings and appointments  
27 involving the foster child. The foster parent shall:

28 (a) Be provided with a written copy of the child's individual treatment plan.

29 (b) Receive reasonable notice of any changes to the treatment plan.

30 (c) Be apprised of the number of times the child has moved from one foster home to  
31 another and the reasons therefor.

32 (d) Have the ability to request a team meeting to address concerns specific to the child,

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1 including the right to participate in development of the child's permanency plan.

2 IV. The foster parent shall be given written notice of any plan to remove a child from the  
3 foster home. The notice shall include:

4 (a) The reason for the change or termination in placement in order to help mitigate any  
5 additional trauma for the child.

6 (b) A copy of any motion, petition, notice of hearing, or court order for a child's removal  
7 that involves the foster parent.

8 V. The foster parent shall receive notice of all court proceedings, may submit written  
9 reports, and, at the court's discretion, may attend such hearings and provide oral reports of the  
10 child's behavior, progress, and developmental, educational, and healthcare needs.

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AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill provides for collaboration between the department of health and human services and foster parents. The bill also defines certain foster parent rights, including the right to receive certain information regarding the child, to participate in meetings regarding the child, and to be notified of a proposed change in placement.