

Amendment to SB 592-FN-A

1 Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:

2
3 1 Child Protection Act; Liability For Expenses; Voluntary Services Excluded. Amend RSA 169-
4 C:27, I(a) and (b) to read as follows:

5 I.(a) Whenever an order creating liability for expenses is issued by the court under this
6 chapter ~~[or whenever a voluntary service plan is developed and provided for a minor and the~~
7 ~~minor's family by the department]~~, any expenses incurred for services, placements, and programs
8 the providers of which are certified pursuant to RSA 170-G:4, XVIII, shall be payable by the
9 department of health and human services.

10 (b) Subparagraph (a) shall not apply to:

11 (1) Expenses incurred for special education and related services~~[-or to];~~

12 (2) Expenses incurred for evaluation, care, and treatment of the child at the New
13 Hampshire hospital; ~~[-or to]~~

14 (3) Expenses incurred for the cost of accompanied transportation; **or**

15 (4) ***Expenses incurred for voluntary services provided to a minor or the***
16 ***minor's family pursuant to RSA 169-C:34, II-a, RSA 169-C:34, V, or RSA 169-C:34, V-a.***

17 2 TANF Funded Initiative; Home Visiting Services. The department of health and human
18 services shall use allowable Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) funds to expand home
19 visiting services through family resource centers. A priority shall be placed on providing home
20 visiting services to families to whom the department has issued a letter of concern pursuant to RSA
21 169-C:34, II-a, cases reported by the department of health and human services as unfounded but
22 with reasonable concern, as defined in RSA 169-C:3, XXIX, and TANF recipients who, as parents of
23 children under 12 months old, are exempt from TANF work requirements.

24 3 TANF Funded Initiative; Family Resource Centers of Quality Specialist. The department of
25 health and human services shall use allowable TANF funds to contract with a family resource
26 center of quality specialist. The role of the specialist shall be to provide technical assistance to
27 family resource centers throughout the state and aid the centers in establishing and achieving the
28 high quality standards necessary for national certification. The person selected by the department
29 shall be qualified by reason of education and experience to assume the responsibilities of a family
30 resource centers of quality specialist.

31 4 TANF Funded Initiative; Child Care Services. The department of health and human services
32 shall use allowable TANF funds to expand child care services to eligible recipients. Priority shall be

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1 given to foster families, families with voluntary service plans through the department of health and
2 human services, and families with individual service plans through family resource centers.

3 **5 Department of Health and Human Services; Supplemental Appropriation.**

4 I. The sum necessary to fund the following positions, which may be either state employee or
5 contract positions, is hereby appropriated to the department of health and human services for the
6 biennium ending June 30, 2019:

7 (a) Eight child protective services workers, who shall be designated resource workers.

8 (b) Two licensed alcohol and drug counselors, who shall contract with the department.

9 II. The appropriation in paragraph I shall be in addition to any other funds appropriated to
10 the department for the biennium ending June 30, 2019. The governor is authorized to draw a
11 warrant for such amount from any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

12 **6 Family Drug Court; Study Committee Established.** There is established a committee to
13 study the development of a family drug court in New Hampshire.

14 I. The members of the committee shall be as follows:

15 (a) One member of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.

16 (b) Three members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the
17 house of representatives.

18 II. Members of the committee shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when attending to
19 the duties of the committee.

20 III. The committee shall study family drug court models and the feasibility of establishing a
21 family drug court in New Hampshire. The specialized court, with jurisdiction over child protection
22 cases that involve substance use by the child's parents or guardians, would provide a coordinated
23 and collaborative approach to reducing child maltreatment by treating parents' underlying
24 substance use disorders. The committee shall solicit information and testimony from any individual
25 or agency the committee deems relevant to its study, including licensed alcohol and drug
26 counselors, family law attorneys, representatives of the department of health and human services,
27 and representatives of the district court family division.

28 IV. The members of the study committee shall elect a chairperson from among the
29 members. The first meeting of the committee shall be called by the senate member. The first
30 meeting of the committee shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. Three
31 members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

32 V. The committee shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed
33 legislation to the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate
34 clerk, the house clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before November 1, 2018.

35 **7 Effective Date.** This act shall take effect upon its passage.

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2018-0992s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

- I. Waives reimbursement for voluntary services under the child protection act.
- II. Establishes a home visiting services initiative.
- III. Directs the department of health and human services to contract with a family resource center of quality specialist.
- IV. Expands certain child care services.
- V. Makes an appropriation to the department of health and human services for additional child protective services workers and licensed alcohol and drug counselors.
- VI. Establishes a committee to study family drug court models.