

FEB 21 1996

HUMAN RESOURCES

HOUSE FILE 2275
BY HARRISON

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act revising provisions for regional and statewide targets for
2 foster care placements.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 2275

1 Section 1. Section 232.143, Code Supplement 1995, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 232.143 REGIONAL GROUP FOSTER CARE ~~TARGET~~ BUDGET TARGETS.

4 1. A statewide expenditure target ~~for-the-average-number~~
5 ~~of~~ for children in group foster care placements ~~on-any-day-of~~
6 in a fiscal year, which placements are a charge upon or are
7 paid for by the state, shall be established annually in an
8 appropriation bill by the general assembly. The department
9 and the judicial department shall jointly develop a formula
10 for allocating a portion of the statewide expenditure target
11 established by the general assembly to each of the
12 department's regions. The formula shall be based upon the
13 region's proportion of the state population of children and of
14 the statewide ~~number-of~~ expenditures for children placed in
15 group foster care in the previous five completed fiscal years.
16 The ~~number~~ expenditure amount determined in accordance with
17 the formula shall be the group foster care placement budget
18 target for that region. A region may exceed its budget target
19 for group foster care by not more than ten percent in a fiscal
20 year, provided the overall funding allocated by the department
21 for all child welfare services in the region is not exceeded.

22 2. For each of the department's regions, representatives
23 appointed by the department and the juvenile court shall
24 establish a plan for containing the ~~number-of~~ expenditures for
25 children placed in group foster care ordered by the court
26 within the budget target allocated to that region pursuant to
27 subsection 1. The plan shall include monthly targets and
28 strategies for developing alternatives to group foster care
29 placements in order to contain expenditures for child welfare
30 ~~services provided-to-children~~ within the amount appropriated
31 by the general assembly for that purpose. Each regional plan
32 shall be established in advance of the fiscal year to which
33 the regional plan applies. To the extent possible, the
34 department and the juvenile court shall coordinate the
35 planning required under this subsection with planning for

1 services paid under section 232.141, subsection 4. The
2 department's regional administrator shall communicate
3 regularly, as specified in the regional plan, with the
4 juvenile courts within that region concerning the current
5 status of the regional plan's implementation.

6 3. State payment for group foster care placements shall be
7 limited to those placements which are in accordance with the
8 regional plans developed pursuant to subsection 2.

9 EXPLANATION

10 This bill transforms regional and statewide targets for
11 foster care placements into budget targets. Under current law
12 the general assembly sets a statewide target for the average
13 number of children in group foster care placements on any day
14 of the fiscal year and the statewide target is allocated to
15 department of human services' regional targets. The bill
16 changes the statewide target to an expenditure target which is
17 allocated according to formula to regional budget targets. A
18 region is authorized to exceed its budget target for group
19 foster care placements by not more than 10 percent provided
20 the region does not exceed its overall budget for child
21 welfare services.

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