

SENATE FILE 2151  
BY GIANNETTO

Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to regional and statewide targets for foster care  
2 placements.

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

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S.F. 2151

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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