

FEB 2 1999

HUMAN RESOURCES

HOUSE FILE 183  
BY DODERER

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

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to special services provided to a foster child  
2 who is a candidate for adoption or who is adopted.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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*HF 183*

1 Section 1. Section 600.17, subsection 2, Code 1999, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 2. "Special services" means any medical, dental,  
4 therapeutic, educational, respite care, or other similar  
5 service or appliance required by an adopted child by reason of  
6 a mental or physical disability.

7 Sec. 2. Section 600.17, Code 1999, is amended by adding  
8 the following new subsection:

9 NEW SUBSECTION. 3. Notwithstanding subsection 1, special  
10 services provided to a foster child shall not be automatically  
11 terminated based upon the filing of an adoption petition and  
12 shall not be terminated for a reasonable time following  
13 issuance of an adoption decree relating to the child.  
14 However, within a reasonable time period, but in no instance  
15 less than twenty days following the issuance of the adoption  
16 decree, the department of human services may require the  
17 adoptive parent to provide documentation of efforts to obtain  
18 special services free of cost or under the adoptive parent's  
19 insurance policy, unless such documentation of previous  
20 efforts to obtain such special services in the same community  
21 or within a contiguous area is already on file with the  
22 department.

23

#### EXPLANATION

24 This bill provides that special services which are provided  
25 to a foster child are not to be automatically terminated based  
26 upon the filing of an adoption petition and for a reasonable  
27 time following adoption of the child. However, adoptive  
28 parents may be required by the department of human services to  
29 document efforts to obtain special services free of cost or  
30 under an insurance policy within a reasonable time (not less  
31 than 20 days) of the issuance of the adoption decree unless  
32 documentation of previous efforts to obtain such special  
33 services is already on file with the department. The bill  
34 would prevent the automatic termination of special services at  
35 the time that a foster child moves into an adoptive situation

1 so that it is not necessary for adoptive parents to reapply  
2 for the special services.

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