

MAR 2 2005  
HUMAN RESOURCES

HOUSE FILE 515  
BY WHITAKER

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

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to decategorization of child welfare funding  
2 project requirements involving authority over funding  
3 designated for a child welfare funding pool and providing an  
4 effective date.

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

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HF 515

1 Section 1. Section 232.188, subsections 4 and 5, Code  
2 2005, are amended to read as follows:

3 4. In a decategorization agreement, the department and the  
4 county's or group of counties' decategorization governance  
5 board shall agree on all of the following items: the  
6 governance relationship between the department and the  
7 decategorization governance board; the respective areas of  
8 autonomy of the department and the board; the budgeting  
9 structure for the decategorization project; and a method for  
10 resolving disputes between the department and the board. The  
11 decategorization agreement shall require the department and  
12 the decategorization governance board to agree upon a budget  
13 within sixty days of the date by which the group foster care  
14 budget targets are determined for departmental service areas  
15 under section 232.143 for the fiscal year to which the budget  
16 applies. The budget may later be modified to reflect new or  
17 changed circumstances. The department shall not act  
18 unilaterally without the concurrence of a decategorization  
19 project's governance board to transfer or otherwise utilize  
20 funding designated for the project's child welfare funding  
21 pool and a decategorization agreement shall not provide that  
22 authority for the department.

23 5. The state shall provide incentives for a county or  
24 counties to participate as a project in a decategorization  
25 agreement while maintaining an expectation that the service  
26 outcomes for children and families can be improved by the  
27 funding flexibility, and the redeployment of funding currently  
28 available for services within the system. Moneys in the child  
29 welfare funding pool established for a county or group of  
30 counties participating as a project in a decategorization  
31 agreement which remain unobligated or unexpended at the end of  
32 a fiscal year shall remain available to the county or group of  
33 counties participating as a decategorization project during  
34 the succeeding fiscal year to be used as directed by the  
35 project's governance board to finance other child welfare

1 service enhancements.

2 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of  
3 immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

4 EXPLANATION

5 This bill amends Code section 232.188, relating to  
6 decategorization of child welfare funding project requirements  
7 involving authority over funding designated for a child  
8 welfare funding pool.

9 The bill prohibits the department of human services from  
10 acting unilaterally to transfer or otherwise utilize funding  
11 designated for a child welfare funding pool and also prohibits  
12 a decategorization agreement from providing such authority.  
13 The bill provides that unobligated or unexpended moneys in a  
14 child welfare funding decategorization project funding pool  
15 carried from one fiscal year to the next shall be used as  
16 directed by the project's governance board to finance other  
17 child welfare service enhancements.

18 The bill takes effect upon enactment.

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