

House File 2418 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2418
BY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN
RESOURCES

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 2104)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to subsidized guardianships.

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

1 Section 1. SUBSIDIZED GUARDIANSHIP PROGRAM —

2 ELIGIBILITY. In determining eligibility requirements for
3 financial assistance to guardians under the subsidized
4 guardianship program, the department of human services shall
5 amend its administrative rules to provide the following:

6 1. The child who is the subject of the guardianship has
7 lived in continuous placement with a relative of the child
8 who is a licensed foster family home provider for a period
9 of at least six months prior to the subsidized guardianship
10 application.

11 2. The child who is the subject of the guardianship may be
12 of any age and need not be part of a sibling group.

13 3. The child who is the subject of the guardianship has been
14 the subject of a child abuse or family assessment report and
15 has been in the custody of the department of human services.

16 Sec. 2. TITLE IV-E GUARDIANSHIP ASSISTANCE STATE PLAN
17 AMENDMENT — SUBSIDIZED GUARDIANSHIP PROGRAM. The department
18 of human services shall submit a Title IV-E guardianship
19 assistance state plan amendment to the United States department
20 of health and human services to allow Title IV-E funding to be
21 used for a subsidized guardianship program to enable children
22 in the care of grandparents and other relatives to exit state
23 care and be placed in permanent homes.

24 EXPLANATION

25 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
26 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

27 This bill requires the department of human services to amend
28 its administrative rules contained in 441 IAC ch. 204 relating
29 to eligibility requirements for guardians under the subsidized
30 guardianship program. The bill requires the child who is
31 the subject of a guardianship to have lived in continuous
32 placement with a relative of the child who is a licensed foster
33 family home provider for at least six months prior to the
34 guardianship. The child who is the subject of the guardianship
35 may be of any age regardless of whether the child is part of

1 a sibling group, and must have been the subject of a child
2 abuse or family assessment report and in the custody of the
3 department of human services.

4 The bill requires the department of human services to
5 submit a Title IV-E guardianship assistance state plan
6 amendment to the United States department of health and human
7 services to allow Title IV-E funding through the federal
8 Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act
9 of 2008 (Pub. L. No. 110-351) to be used for a subsidized
10 guardianship program to enable children to remain in the care
11 of grandparents and other relatives to avoid placement in state
12 care.