

Senate File 2214 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2214

BY EDLER

A BILL FOR

1 An Act establishing a therapeutic foster care services study
2 committee.

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

1 Section 1. DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES — THERAPEUTIC
2 FOSTER CARE SERVICES STUDY COMMITTEE.

3 1. The department of human services shall convene a study
4 committee to meet during the 2022 legislative interim to
5 examine issues relating to the establishment of therapeutic
6 foster care services to provide eligible children therapeutic
7 foster care services in a family-like setting. For the
8 purposes of this section, "therapeutic foster care" means
9 out-of-home care provided by a foster parent with specialized
10 training and support to care for a wide variety of children
11 with significant emotional, behavioral, social, or medical
12 needs.

13 2. The study committee shall consider but not be limited to
14 all of the following:

15 a. The appropriate population eligible for therapeutic
16 foster care services.

17 b. Licensing requirements.

18 c. Training requirements.

19 d. The number of children estimated to be in need of
20 therapeutic foster care services.

21 e. Costs to initiate and maintain therapeutic foster care
22 services.

23 f. Potential funding sources.

24 g. The operation of similar therapeutic foster care
25 services in other states.

26 3. The department shall submit a report detailing the study
27 committee's findings and making recommendations to the governor
28 and the general assembly no later than December 15, 2022.

29 EXPLANATION

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

32 This bill establishes a therapeutic foster care services
33 study committee.

34 The bill directs the department of human services (DHS) to
35 convene a study committee to meet during the 2022 legislative

1 interim to examine issues relating to therapeutic foster care
2 services to provide eligible children therapeutic care services
3 in a family-like setting. The bill defines "therapeutic foster
4 care" as out-of-home care provided by a foster parent with
5 specialized training and support to care for a wide variety of
6 children with significant emotional, behavioral, social, or
7 medical needs.

8 The bill requires the study committee to consider but not be
9 limited to the appropriate population eligible for therapeutic
10 foster care services; licensing requirements; training
11 requirements; the number of children estimated to be in need
12 of therapeutic foster care services; costs to initiate and
13 maintain therapeutic foster care services; potential funding
14 sources; and how similar therapeutic foster care services
15 operate in other states.

16 The bill requires the study committee to submit a report
17 detailing its findings and making recommendations to the
18 governor and the general assembly no later than December 15,
19 2022.