

Senate File 2284 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2284

BY EDLER

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the department of health and human services'
2 aftercare service program, including eligibility and
3 benefits.

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

1 Section 1. Section 234.46, subsection 1, paragraphs b and c,
2 Code 2024, are amended to read as follows:

3 ~~b. The person is age eighteen, nineteen, twenty, twenty-one,~~
4 ~~or twenty-two~~ years of age or younger.

5 c. The person is described by one of the following:

6 (1) At the time the person became age eighteen, the person
7 received ~~foster care services that were paid for by the state~~
8 ~~under section 234.35,~~ services at a state training school,
9 services at a juvenile shelter care home, services at a
10 juvenile detention home, or court-ordered care in accordance
11 with chapter 232 by a relative or another person with a
12 significant relationship with the person, and the person is no
13 longer receiving such services or care.

14 (2) The person was sixteen years of age or older when the
15 person exited foster care paid by the state under section
16 234.35.

17 Sec. 2. Section 234.46, subsection 2, unnumbered paragraph
18 1, Code 2024, is amended to read as follows:

19 The department shall establish a preparation for adult
20 living program directed to young adults. The purpose of the
21 program is to assist persons who are leaving foster care
22 and other court-ordered services at age ~~eighteen~~ sixteen or
23 older in making the transition to self-sufficiency. The
24 department shall adopt rules necessary for administration of
25 the program, including but not limited to eligibility criteria
26 for young adult participation and the services and other
27 support available under the program. The rules shall provide
28 for participation of each person who meets the definition of
29 young adult on the same basis, regardless of whether federal
30 financial participation is provided. The services and other
31 support available under the program may include but are not
32 limited to any of the following:

33 Sec. 3. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES — AFTERCARE
34 SERVICE PROGRAM.

35 1. For purposes of this section:

1 a. "Department" means the department of health and human
2 services.

3 b. "Foster care" means twenty-four-hour substitute care
4 for a child who is placed away from the child's parents
5 or guardians and for whom the department or juvenile court
6 services has placement and care responsibility through either a
7 court order or voluntary agreement.

8 (1) A placement may meet the definition of foster care
9 regardless of any of the following:

10 (a) The placement is licensed and the state or a local
11 agency makes payments for the child's care.

12 (b) Adoption subsidy payments are being made before the
13 finalization of adoption.

14 (c) There is federal matching of any payments made.

15 (2) Foster care may include but is not limited to placement
16 in any of the following:

17 (a) Foster family care.

18 (b) A group home.

19 (c) An emergency shelter.

20 (d) Supervised apartment living.

21 (e) A preadoptive home.

22 (f) The home of a relative or suitable person.

23 (g) A psychiatric medical institution for children.

24 2. Pursuant to chapter 17A, the department shall amend the
25 department's rules to do all of the following:

26 a. Allow a person to be eligible for the aftercare service
27 program if the person is twenty-two years of age or younger
28 and exited foster care on or after the person attained sixteen
29 years of age.

30 b. Set the start-up allowance offered through the aftercare
31 service program at a one-time payment of nine hundred dollars.

32 c. Set the vendor payments offered through the aftercare
33 service program at two thousand dollars per year.

34 d. Set the extended services allowance offered through
35 the aftercare service program at two thousand dollars for a

1 one-year period calculated from the date of initiation of
2 extended services.

3 e. Allow each person who is participating in the aftercare
4 service program pursuant to section 234.46 to receive the
5 preparation for adult living stipend regardless of the person's
6 age, provided that the person meets all other requirements for
7 the preparation for adult living stipend.

8

EXPLANATION

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

11 This bill relates to aftercare service program eligibility
12 and benefits.

13 The aftercare service program was established to assist
14 persons who are leaving foster care and other court-ordered
15 services in making the transition to self-sufficiency.

16 Under current law, a person must be 18, 19, 20, 21, or 22
17 years of age to be eligible for the aftercare service program.
18 The bill changes the age requirement for the aftercare service
19 program so persons 22 years of age and under are eligible for
20 the program.

21 Under current law, to be eligible for the aftercare service
22 program, a person must be 18 years of age when the person exits
23 foster care services paid by the state under Code section
24 234.35 (when state to pay foster care costs), services at a
25 state training school, services at a juvenile shelter care
26 home, services at a juvenile detention home, or court-ordered
27 care in accordance with Code chapter 232 (juvenile justice) by
28 a relative or another person with a significant relationship
29 with the person. The bill allows a person to qualify for the
30 aftercare service program if the person exited foster care
31 services paid by the state under Code section 234.35 when the
32 person was 16 years of age or older.

33 The bill defines the terms "department" and "foster care".

34 The bill requires the department of health and human
35 services to amend its administrative rules to set the start-up

S.F. 2284

1 allowance offered through the aftercare service program at
2 a one-time payment of \$900; set the vendor payments offered
3 through the aftercare service program at \$2,000 per year; set
4 the extended services allowance offered through the aftercare
5 service program at \$2,000 for a one year period calculated from
6 the date of initiation of extended services; and allow each
7 person who is participating in the aftercare service program
8 to receive the preparation for adult living stipend regardless
9 of the person's age, provided that the person meets all other
10 requirements for the preparation for adult living stipend.
11 The bill makes conforming changes.