

House Study Bill 590 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
AND HUMAN SERVICES BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON HARRIS)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act requiring the department of health and human services to
2 pay for the costs of a child's placement in shelter care.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. Section 232.141, subsection 8, Code 2026, is
2 amended by striking the subsection and inserting in lieu thereof
3 the following:

4 8. All costs for a child's shelter care shall be paid by the
5 department.

6 Sec. 2. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES —
7 REIMBURSEMENT OF SHELTER CARE COSTS. The department of health
8 and human services shall amend the department's rules pursuant
9 to chapter 17A to require the department to pay all costs for a
10 child's shelter care as that term is defined in section 232.2.

11 EXPLANATION

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

14 "Shelter care" is the temporary care of a child in a
15 physically unrestricting facility at any time between the child's
16 initial contact with juvenile authorities and the final judicial
17 disposition of the child's case. Under current law, if the
18 department of health and human services (HHS) is not authorized
19 to pay all of the costs of a child's shelter care placement,
20 then the child's custodial parent's county of residence shall
21 pay for the difference between the actual and allowable costs
22 of the shelter care and the amount HHS paid to the shelter care
23 provider.

24 This bill requires HHS to pay all costs for a child's shelter
25 care and requires HHS to amend its rules to reflect HHS's
26 responsibility to pay the costs of shelter care.