

Senate Study Bill 3016 - Introduced

SENATE FILE _____

BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
AND HUMAN SERVICES BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON WARME)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to foster parent training requirements for the
2 licensure of individual child foster care providers.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. Section 237.5A, Code 2026, is amended to read as
2 follows:

3 **237.5A Foster parent training.**

4 1. a. As a condition for initial licensure, each proposed
5 individual licensee shall complete ~~thirty hours of foster parent~~
6 ~~training offered or approved by the department. However, if~~
7 When determining the appropriate foster parent training for a
8 proposed individual licensee, the department shall consider the
9 proposed individual licensee has completed relevant training or
10 has a combination of completed licensee's relevant training and
11 experience, and the department deems such training or combination
12 to be an acceptable equivalent to all or a portion of the
13 initial licensure training requirement, or based upon the. In
14 addition, the department shall consider the circumstances of
15 the child who will receive child foster care from the proposed
16 individual licensee and the circumstances of the proposed
17 individual licensee ~~the department finds there is other good~~
18 ~~cause, the department may waive all or a portion of the training~~
19 ~~requirement.~~

20 b. Prior to renewal of licensure, each individual licensee
21 shall annually complete ~~six hours of foster parent training~~
22 as determined appropriate for the individual licensee by the
23 department. The training

24 2. Training required under this section shall include but is
25 not limited to physical care, education, learning disabilities,
26 referral to and receipt of necessary professional services,
27 behavioral assessment and modification, self-assessment,
28 self-living skills, and biological parent contact. An individual
29 licensee not be limited to all of the following:

30 a. An overview of child welfare.

31 b. Biological parent contact and supporting a child's family
32 of origin.

33 c. Behavior management.

34 d. Trauma and the effect on child development.

35 e. Attachment, grief, and loss.

1 The bill eliminates current hourly requirements for foster
2 care training for initial foster care licensure and renewals of
3 licenses. Instead, the bill allows HHS to determine appropriate
4 training requirements for individuals based on the relevant
5 experience of the individual, and the circumstances of both
6 the prospective foster child and the individual. The bill
7 details the topics that must be included in annual training for
8 individual licensees.

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