

**House File 2163 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 2163  
BY COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 505)

**A BILL FOR**

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

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~~  
6 parent training offered or approved by the department.  
7 ~~However, if~~ When determining the appropriate foster parent  
8 training for a proposed individual licensee, the department  
9 shall consider the proposed individual licensee has completed  
10 relevant training or has a combination of completed licensee's  
11 relevant training and experience, and the department deems such  
12 training or combination to be an acceptable equivalent to all  
13 or a portion of the initial licensure training requirement, or  
14 based upon the. In addition, the department shall consider the  
15 circumstances of the child who will receive child foster care  
16 from the proposed individual licensee and the circumstances of  
17 the proposed individual licensee the department finds there is  
18 other good cause, the department may waive all or a portion of  
19 the training 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  
29 individual 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  
3 of licenses. Instead, the bill allows HHS to determine  
4 appropriate training requirements for individuals based on the  
5 relevant experience of the individual, and the circumstances of  
6 both the prospective foster child and the individual. The bill  
7 details the topics that must be included in annual training for  
8 individual licensees.