



# Iowa Department of Human Services

Terry E. Branstad  
Governor

Kim Reynolds  
Lt. Governor

Charles M. Palmer  
Director

MEMO

FROM: Sally Titus, Deputy Director  
TO: General Assembly  
DATE: January 6, 2017  
RE: Child Foster Care

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The attached proposal is to amend Iowa Code section 237.1 to allow a relative to be in the role of providing child foster care and to allow a relative, despite licensure, to provide care to a child when the Department does not have placement and care or supervision responsibility.

Current provisions exclude a relative from providing child foster care, so when a child is placed with a relative who is a licensed foster parent their stay is not recognized by the law as child foster care. The request is to allow this circumstance to be considered child foster care.

The current definition also identifies types of care that are not considered "child foster care". It is necessary to clarify that care provided by a relative for more than 20 days when the department does not have placement and care or supervision responsibility is not child foster care. The request is to allow this circumstance to be added as a type of care not considered "child foster care".

Cc: Wendy Rickman  
Teresa A. McCall