

D R A F T

SUMMARY

Expands requirements for independent living that must be contained in case plans for children in custody of Department of Human Services.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to independent living options for children in the custody of the Department of Human Services; amending ORS 419B.343.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. ORS 419B.343 is amended to read:

419B.343. (1) To ensure effective planning for wards, the Department of Human Services shall take into consideration recommendations and information provided by the committing court before placement in any facility.

The department shall ensure that the case planning in any case:

(a) For the reunification of the family bears a rational relationship to the jurisdictional findings that brought the ward within the court's jurisdiction under ORS 419B.100;

(b) Incorporates the perspective of the ward and the family and, whenever possible, allows the family to assist in designing its own service programs, based on an assessment of the family's needs and the family's solutions and resources for change; and

(c) Is integrated with other agencies in cooperation with the caseworkers.

(2) Except in cases when the plan is something other than to reunify the family, the department shall include in the case plan:

(a) Appropriate services to allow the parent the opportunity to adjust the parent's circumstances, conduct or conditions to make it possible for the

1 ward to safely return home within a reasonable time; and

2 (b) A concurrent permanent plan to be implemented if the parent is una-
3 ble or unwilling to adjust the parent's circumstances, conduct or conditions
4 in such a way as to make it possible for the ward to safely return home
5 within a reasonable time.

6 (3) Any time after a ward attains 14 years of age, if the department de-
7 termines that it is appropriate, but in no case later than the date the ward
8 attains 16 years of age, the department shall ensure that the case planning
9 in the case addresses the ward's needs and goals for a successful transition
10 to independent living, including **but not limited to** needs and goals related
11 to:

12 (a) Housing[.];

13 (b) Physical and mental health, **including proactive and preventive**
14 **health care;**

15 (c) Education, **including assistance in obtaining a high school di-**
16 **ploma or equivalent;**

17 (d) Employment, **including career exploration, vocational training,**
18 **job placement and job retention;**

19 (e) **Daily living skills;**

20 (f) **Budgeting and financial management skills and training;**

21 (g) Community connections; and

22 (h) Supportive relationships.

23 (4) The case plan for a ward in substitute care must include the health
24 and education records of the ward, including the most recent information
25 available regarding:

26 (a) The names and addresses of the ward's health and education providers;

27 (b) The grade level of the ward's academic performance;

28 (c) The ward's school record;

29 (d) Whether the ward's placement takes into account proximity to the
30 school in which the ward is enrolled at the time of placement;

31 (e) The ward's immunizations;

- 1 (f) Any known medical problems of the ward;
- 2 (g) The ward's medications; and
- 3 (h) Any other relevant health and education information concerning the
- 4 ward that the department determines is appropriate to include in the records.

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