

## LEGISLATIVE BILL 714

Approved by the Governor April 16, 1982

Introduced by DeCamp, 40; Fenger, 45

AN ACT to adopt the Foster Care Review Act.  
Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. For the purpose of this act, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) Local board shall mean a local foster care review board created pursuant to section 4 of this act;

(2) State board shall mean the State Foster Care Review Board created pursuant to section 2 of this act;

(3) Foster care facility shall mean any foster home, group home, child care facility, public agency, private agency, and any other person or entity receiving and caring for foster children;

(4) Foster care placements shall mean all placements of neglected, dependent, or delinquent children including those made directly by parents or by third parties;

(5) Person or court in charge of the child shall mean (a) the Department of Public Welfare, an association, or individual that has been made the guardian of a neglected, dependent, or delinquent child by the court and has the responsibility of the care of the child, and has the authority by and with assent of the court to place such a child in a suitable family home or institution or has been entrusted with the care of the child by a voluntary placement made by a parent or legal guardian or (b) the court which has jurisdiction over the child;

(6) Voluntary placement shall mean the placement by a parent or legal guardian who relinquishes the possession and care of a child to a third party, individual, or agency; and

(7) Family unit shall mean the social unit consisting of the foster child and the parent or parents or any person in the relationship of a parent, including a grandparent, and any siblings with whom the foster child legally resided prior to placement in foster care.

Sec. 2. (1) The State Foster Care Review Board is hereby established, consisting of seven members, to be appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by a majority of the members elected to the legislature, two of whom shall be from each of the three congressional districts as they existed on January 1, 1982, and one of whom shall be appointed at large. Members shall be appointed to three-year terms, except that of the original members appointed, the at-large member shall serve for two years, two other members shall serve for two years, two members shall serve for one year, and two members shall serve for three years. No person shall serve on the state board for more than six consecutive years.

(2) The state board shall select a chairperson, vice-chairperson, and such other officers as the state board may deem necessary. Members of the state board shall be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses in the performance of their official duties as provided in sections 84-306.01 to 84-306.05 for state employees. The state board shall employ such persons as are necessary to aid it in carrying out its duties.

Sec. 3. The state board shall meet at least twice per year. The State Foster Care Review Board shall establish a statewide register of all foster care placements occurring within the state, and there shall be a monthly report made to the state board registry of all foster care placements by any child-placing agency or court. For each child entering and leaving foster care, such monthly report shall consist of identifying information, placement information, and the plan developed by the person or court in charge of the child pursuant to section 12 of this act. Every court and child-placing agency shall report any foster care placement within three working days. The state board shall review the activities of local boards and may adopt and promulgate its own rules and regulations. Such rules and regulations shall provide for the:

(1) Establishment of training programs for local board members which shall include an initial training program and periodic inservice training programs;

(2) Development of procedures for local review boards;

(3) Establishment of a central recordkeeping facility for all local review board files including individual case reviews;