

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 46th Legislature (1997)

HOUSE BILL NO. 1919

By: Stites

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to children; amending Section 3, Chapter 353, O.S.L. 1996 (10 O.S. Supp. 1996, Section 7203), which relates to the Oklahoma Foster Care and Out-of-Home Placement Act; clarifying language; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 3, Chapter 353, O.S.L. 1996 (10 O.S. Supp. 1996, Section 7203), is amended to read as follows:

Section 7203. For purposes of the Oklahoma Foster Care and Out-of-Home Placement Act:

1. "Child-placing agency" means a private agency licensed to place children in foster family homes, group homes, adoptive homes, transitional or independent living programs, or family child care homes or other out-of-home placements; and which approves and monitors ~~such~~ the placements and facilities in accordance with the licensing requirements established by the Oklahoma Child Care Facilities Licensing Act;

2. "Foster care" or "foster care services" means continuous twenty-four-hour care and supportive services provided for a child in foster placement while the child needs out-of-home placement;

3. "Foster child" means a child placed in foster placement;

4. "Foster family" means all persons living in a foster family home, other than a foster child;

5. "Foster family home" means the private residence of a family which provides foster care services to a child. ~~Such~~ The term "foster family home" shall include a foster family home, a therapeutic foster family home, the home of relative, or a kinship care home;

6. "Foster parent" means any individual maintaining a foster family home, who is responsible for the care of a foster child;

7. "Foster placement" means a child-placing agency or a foster family home providing foster care services;

8. "Independent living program" means a program specifically designed to assist a child to enhance those skills and abilities necessary for successful adult living. An independent living program may include, but shall not be limited to, minimal direct staff supervision, and supportive services to assist with activities necessary for finding an appropriate place of residence, completing an education or vocational training, obtaining employment, or obtaining other similar services;

9. "Kinship care" means full-time care of a child by relatives, members of the relative's clan, stepparents, or other adults who have an existing bond with the child and to whom have been ascribed a family relationship role with the child's parents and the child;

10. "Out-of-home placement" means a placement, other than a placement in the home of the parent or guardian from whose custody the court has removed the child, until the child is reunified with the child's parents or a permanent placement is made;

11. "Relative" means a grandparent, great grandparent, brother or sister of whole or half blood, aunt, uncle or any other person related to the child within the fourth degree of consanguinity;

12. "State agency" means the Department of Human Services or the Department of Juvenile Justice, as applicable; and

13. "Therapeutic foster home" means a foster family home which provides specific supportive services, pursuant to a therapeutic foster care contract, which are designed to remedy social and behavioral problems of a foster child residing in the home.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 1997.

46-1-5940

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