

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 53rd Legislature (2011)

3 HOUSE BILL 1279

By: Inman

4  
5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to children; amending 10 O.S. 2001,  
8 Section 7212, as amended by Section 104, Chapter 233,  
9 O.S.L. 2009, and as renumbered by Section 308,  
10 Chapter 233, O.S.L. 2009 (10A O.S. Supp. 2010,  
11 Section 1-9-116), which relates to foster care  
12 education and training; requiring the Department of  
13 Human Services to offer training to certain number of  
14 prospective kinship foster parents; requiring the  
15 inclusion of certain training information on  
16 Department website; and providing an effective date.

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

18 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 10 O.S. 2001, Section 7212, as  
19 amended by Section 104, Chapter 233, O.S.L. 2009, and as renumbered  
20 by Section 308, Chapter 233, O.S.L. 2009 (10A O.S. Supp. 2010,  
21 Section 1-9-116), is amended to read as follows:

22 Section 1-9-116. A. The Department of Human Services and each  
23 child-placing agency shall develop:

24 1. A foster care education program to provide training for  
persons intending to furnish foster care services; and

2. Continuing educational programs for foster parents.

1 B. 1. In addition to any other conditions and requirements  
2 specified by the state agency or child-placing agency, as  
3 applicable, prior to placement of a child in foster placement other  
4 than kinship care, each foster parent shall have completed the  
5 training approved by the Department or the child-placing agency, as  
6 appropriate.

7 2. A foster parent providing kinship foster care shall, if  
8 possible, complete the training developed by the Department for  
9 kinship foster care prior to placement or at such other times as  
10 required by the Department; provided, however, in no event shall  
11 training take place later than one hundred twenty (120) days after  
12 placement of the child with the kinship foster parent. The  
13 Department shall provide training to any group of six or more  
14 prospective kinship foster care providers in need of the training.  
15 In addition, the Department shall provide information on the  
16 Department website detailing training times and locations of kinship  
17 foster care training statewide so that prospective foster parents  
18 may enroll in and attend the training if the prospective kinship  
19 foster parent so chooses. Until a kinship foster parent receives  
20 final approval from the Department to provide foster care services  
21 to a child, the kinship foster parent shall not be eligible to  
22 receive any payment for providing foster care services.

23 3. Approved training shall require a minimum of twelve (12)  
24 hours of study related, but not limited, to physical care,

1 education, learning disabilities, procedures for referral to and  
2 receipt of necessary professional services, behavioral assessment  
3 and modification, independent-living skills, and procedures for  
4 biological parent contact. Such training shall relate to the area  
5 of parental substitute authority, behavioral management techniques  
6 including, but not limited to, parent-child conflict resolution  
7 techniques, stress management, and any other appropriate technique  
8 to teach the foster parent how to manage the child's behavior in a  
9 manner appropriate to the age and development of the foster child.

10 4. The foster parent or person intending to provide foster care  
11 services may complete the training as part of an approved training  
12 program offered by a public or private agency with expertise in the  
13 provision of child foster care or in related subject areas.

14 C. In order to assist persons providing kinship foster care,  
15 the Department shall immediately refer kinship foster parents and  
16 the child for assistance under the Temporary Assistance for Needy  
17 Families Program until the certification and training requirements  
18 have been completed.

19 D. Foster parent training programs may include, but not be  
20 limited to, in-service training, workshops and seminars developed by  
21 the state agency; seminars and courses offered through public or  
22 private education agencies; and workshops, seminars and courses  
23 pertaining to behavioral and developmental disabilities and to the  
24 development of mutual support services for foster parents.

1 E. The Department and each child-placing agency shall provide  
2 statewide training, education, and continuing education programs for  
3 foster parents.

4 F. The Department or each child-placing agency shall notify a  
5 foster parent at least ten (10) business days in advance of the  
6 statewide scheduling of education, continuing education or foster  
7 parent training occurring near the vicinity of the home of a foster  
8 parent.

9 G. The Department may also provide additional foster care  
10 training to a foster parent. A foster parent may request in writing  
11 to the Department that additional foster parent training be  
12 provided.

13 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2011.

14

15 53-1-6442 SDR 01/18/11

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24