

AMENDMENTS TO LB468

Introduced by Health and Human Services.

1 1. Strike the original sections and insert the following new
2 sections:

3 Section 1. Section 43-2201, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
4 amended to read:

5 43-2201 It is the intent of the Legislature to:

6 (1) Promote kinship care and lifelong connections through the
7 process of family finding when a child has been removed from the legal
8 custody of the child's parents;

9 (2) Prevent recurrence of abuse, neglect, exploitation, or other
10 maltreatment of children;

11 (3) Reduce the length of time children spend in foster care;

12 (4) Reduce multiple placements of children in foster care;

13 (5) Remain in compliance with the federal Fostering Connections to
14 Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008, Public Law 110-351; and

15 (6) Provide a ~~Create a pilot project for the process of~~ locating
16 and engaging family members in the life of a child who is a ward of the
17 state or is participating in the bridge to independence program as
18 defined in section 43-4503, or both, and in need of permanency through a
19 lifelong network of support.

20 Sec. 2. Section 43-2203, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
21 amended to read:

22 43-2203 The department, its contracted providers of family finding
23 services, and family members of children involved in cases which are part
24 of the family finding process ~~pilot project~~ created in section 43-2204
25 shall participate in family finding. Family finding is the process of
26 engagement, searching, preparation, planning, decisionmaking, lifetime
27 network creation, healing, and permanency in order to:

1 (1) Search for and identify family members and engage them in
2 planning and decisionmaking;

3 (2) Gain commitments from family members to support a child through
4 nurturing relationships and to support the parent or parents, when
5 appropriate; and

6 (3) Achieve a safe, permanent legal home or lifelong connection for
7 the child, either through reunification or through permanent placement
8 through legal guardianship or adoption.

9 Sec. 3. Section 43-2204, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
10 amended to read:

11 43-2204 A family finding process ~~pilot project~~ is created to provide
12 family finding services ~~within at least two service areas~~. The department
13 ~~may shall~~ contract with providers of family finding services or the case
14 management lead agency pilot project authorized under section 68-1212 to
15 carry out the family finding process ~~services pilot project~~. A provider
16 may contract within multiple service areas. Each contracting provider
17 shall be trained in and implement the steps described in section 43-2203.
18 ~~The family finding services pilot project shall terminate on June 30,~~
19 ~~2019.~~

20 Sec. 4. Section 43-2205, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
21 amended to read:

22 43-2205 (1) Under the family finding process ~~pilot project~~ created
23 under section 43-2204, the department shall refer a portion of all cases
24 involving children who are wards of the state in foster care or
25 participating in the bridge to independence program as defined in section
26 43-4503, or both, to providers of family finding services who or which
27 shall (a) locate family members of the children, (b) engage and empower
28 family members, and (c) create an individualized plan to achieve a safe,
29 permanent legal home for the children when possible.

30 (2) The department shall provide administrative oversight of the
31 contracts entered into pursuant to the family finding process ~~pilot~~

1 ~~project~~ created under section 43-2204.

2 (3) A child's departmental case manager, the child's foster parents,
3 and the provider of family finding services shall collaborate together to
4 maximize success throughout the family finding process.

5 (4) The department shall carry out the requirements of the
6 Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children when achieving out-of-
7 state placement of a ward of the court, including prompt submission of
8 required paperwork to ensure that the family finding process moves
9 forward in a timely manner.

10 Sec. 5. Section 43-2209, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
11 amended to read:

12 43-2209 The department may adopt and promulgate rules and
13 regulations to carry out sections 43-2201 to 43-2207 ~~43-2208~~.

14 Sec. 6. Section 68-901, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2017, as
15 amended by section 1, Initiative Law 2018, No. 427, is amended to read:

16 68-901 Sections 68-901 to 68-991, ~~and~~ section 2 of this act, and
17 section 7 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the Medical
18 Assistance Act.

19 Sec. 7. Until July 1, 2021, the department shall not add long-term
20 care services and supports to the medicaid managed care program. For
21 purposes of this section, long-term care services and supports includes
22 services of a skilled nursing facility, a nursing facility, and an
23 assisted-living facility and home and community-based services.

24 Sec. 8. Original sections 43-2201, 43-2203, 43-2204, 43-2205, and
25 43-2209, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and section 68-901,
26 Revised Statutes Supplement, 2017, as amended by section 1, Initiative
27 Law 2018, No. 427, are repealed.

28 Sec. 9. The following sections are outright repealed: Sections
29 43-2206 and 43-2208, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska.