

MINUTES
HOUSE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, January 18, 2023

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW20

MEMBERS: Chairman Vander Woude, Vice Chairman Erickson, Representatives Blanksma, Kingsley, Mitchell, Dixon(24), Gallagher, Healey, Redman, Wheeler, Chew, Rubel, Roberts

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

Chairman Vander Woude called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Chairman Vander Woude turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Erickson**.

DOCKET NO. 16-0418-2201: **Frede' Teske**, Program Manager, Therapeutic and Residential Program, Division of Licensing and Certification, Department of Health and Welfare (DHW), presented **Docket No. 16-0418-2201**. In order to reduce confusion by stakeholders, this new chapter separates programs licensed by the Division of Licensing and Certification from those licensed by the Division of Family and Community Services and the Division of Welfare. The content of the current Child Care Licensing chapter was used, reorganized, streamlined, and simplified. This chapter impacts children's agencies, children's therapeutic outdoor programs, children's residential care facilities, children's camps, and children's substance abuse treatment facilities licensed by this division.

MOTION: **Rep. Blanksma** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0418-2201**. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Gallagher** requested to be recorded as voting **NAY**.

DOCKET NO. 16-0601-2201: **Kaela Whitehead**, Program Specialist, DHW, Division of Family and Community Services, presented **Docket No. 16-0601-2201**. This rule change reflects the legislative approved foster parent rate increase which became effective April 1, 2022. She noted many foster parents have expressed their gratitude for the increase. The change provides consistency for both in- and out-of-state applications.

MOTION: **Rep. Healey** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0601-2201**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 16-0602-2201: **Kaela Whitehead**, Program Specialist, DHW, Division of Family and Community Services, presented **Docket No. 16-0602-2201**. This chapter, renamed "Child Care And Foster Care Licensing," has been rewritten to streamline and align the rule with standards identified in public law. Model licensing standards are added to assure safe physical surroundings for children in foster homes. The number of children allowed in a home has been increased to six. This aligns with federal requirements and allows for additional children based on specific criteria. There is no fiscal impact on any funds. Answering a question regarding the number of families with five or more children in their home, Ms. Whitehead said she will provide the number for the committee. There are 1,017 licensed foster families in Idaho.

MOTION: **Rep. Rubel** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0602-2201**.

Responding to further questions, **Ms. Whitehead** shared an example of when an exemption for additional children would occur. As of January 17, 2023, there are 1,500 foster children within Idaho, with 1,017 foster placements. This rule provides transparency for the existing clinical assessment process.

Aubrie Hunt, Program Manager, Childcare and Payments, Division of Self Reliance, was invited to answer a committee question. She explained daycare licensing was historically included with the Division of Family and Community Services. Because they rely on the same regulations, the inclusion continues.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION:

Rep. Mitchell made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0602-2201** with the exception of **Section 100, Subsections 5 and 6**.

Ms. Hunt said Section 100 contains specific daycare licensing programs, is in alignment with state statute, and has been added for clarity.

Concern was expressed regarding other daycare licensing sections within the rule, mixing the two subjects beyond what is necessary, and the large task of splitting apart the two topics. It was noted the daycare sections are important provisions to help working foster care families.

AMENDED SUBSTITUTE MOTION:

Rep. Rubel made an amended substitute motion to **HOLD Docket No. 16-0602-2201** in committee for time certain to be determined by the chair. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 16-0601-2202:

Julie Sevcik, Project Manager, DHW, Division of Family and Community Services, presented **Docket No. 16-0601-2202**. In 2018 the Family First Act became effective and allowed use of federal funds to prevent children at risk from entering foster care. Idaho is in the final steps to receive federal approval of the five-year prevention plan which outlines defining requirements for use of these funds.

The Core Child and Family Services section updates reflect the use of evidence-based prevention services. This includes services for mental health, substance use prevention and treatment, and in-home parent skill-based programs. The rule also clarifies the setting of rates and notifications to providers.

Service costs are covered by state general funds and federal grants. State funds will continue to be used and are estimated to be less than \$100,000 during the first twelve months the new services are available. These costs will increase with new services and will be initially eligible for Title IV-E funds at 50% of the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) through 2026 and will then increase to the full FMAP rate of just under 71%, after 2026.

MOTION:

Rep. Dixon (24) made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0601-2202**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 16-0208-2201:

James Aydelotte, State Registrar, Bureau Chief, Bureau of Vital Records and Health Statistics, Division of Public Health, DHW, presented **Docket No. 16-0208-2201**. The changes bring the vital statistics rules into alignment with legislation passed in 2022.

The Idaho Transportation Department issues a no-fee identification card for individuals experiencing homelessness, removing job & housing barriers. Because a birth certificate is necessary for this card, the certificate fee is waived.

The second change allows adoptees born on or after July 1, 2022, to access birth records after they reach 18 years of age. Additional changes maintain consistency.

MOTION:

Rep. Rubel made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0208-2201**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 16-0219-2201: **Jerryd Samples**, Food Protection Program Manager, DHW, presented **Docket No. 16-0219-2201** which simplifies the food code. After extensive review, the updates provide clarity and delete multiple definitions existing elsewhere in statute. Terminology has been changed to match those used by the Food Drug Administration (FDA). The inspection cycle has been clarified to once every 12 months. Other changes included typographic errors and eliminate additional outdated language for ease of use.

MOTION: **Rep. Mitchell** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 16-0219-2201**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:09 a.m.

Representative Erickson
Chair

Irene Moore
Secretary