



January 13, 2012

# SENATE BILL No. 287

DIGEST OF SB 287 (Updated January 11, 2012 12:39 pm - DI 107)

**Citations Affected:** IC 4-1; IC 4-13; IC 5-22; IC 12-7; IC 12-13; IC 12-14; IC 12-15; IC 12-17; IC 12-17.2; IC 12-26; IC 16-37; IC 29-3; IC 31-9; IC 31-14; IC 31-16; IC 31-19; IC 31-25; IC 31-26; IC 31-27; IC 31-28; IC 31-33; IC 31-34; IC 31-35; IC 31-37; IC 31-39; IC 33-32; IC 33-37; IC 36-2.

**Synopsis:** Department of child services. Makes conforming changes to the interstate compact for the placement of children. Changes references of the "county office of family and children" to the correct agency. Adds Title IV-D of the Social Security Act to the list of programs to which an agency may disclose a Social Security number. Removes a requirement that a local child protection team shall assist the department of child services ombudsman with redacting or reviewing certain reports. Removes a duty of the division of family services to administer preservation services to high risk youth. Removes language regarding deposits by the family and social services administration (FSSA) into the child welfare services account. Removes language requiring the department of child services (department) to prepare information to the state board of accounts. Requires certain information to be included in a paternity affidavit. Removes language requiring the department to investigate and report to a court regarding the conditions of a minor and the fitness of a guardian if ordered by a court. Makes statutes consistent regarding the age of a child that a person may give up under the safe haven statute. Provides that the department has authority to redirect a payment to the appropriate government agency when there is an assignment under  
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**Effective:** July 1, 2012.

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**Lawson C, Lanane**

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January 5, 2012, read first time and referred to Committee on Judiciary.  
January 12, 2012, amended, reported favorably — Do Pass.

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Digest Continued

Title IV-A or IV-E. Removes the requirement that an obligee must disclose the person's Social Security number on certain child support related forms. Changes references to the Indiana support enforcement tracking system to include the successor statewide automated support enforcement system. Makes changes to background check statutes to be consistent with federal law. Requires the department to consult with the division of family resources regarding the adoption of rules concerning child caring institutions and group homes that are licensed for infants and toddlers. Modifies statutes concerning licensing procedures and criminal history checks that the department performs. Removes certain facilities that may be licensed as a secure private facility. Removes the requirement that the department must purchase one computer for every two case managers. Provides that certain Title IV-D fees may be set according to rules adopted by the department. Provides that a corrective action for emergency protection of children includes a hold on new placements. Requires the department to advise a parent who is voluntarily relinquishing parental rights that the parent's consent may not be based upon a promise regarding the child's adoption or contact of any type with the child after the parent voluntarily relinquishes parental rights. Requires the department to require a consumer report on certain children in state foster care. Requires a court to enter findings of fact that support the entry of its conclusions granting a termination of parental rights. Repeals the county child advocacy fund. Repeals language requiring the department and probation department make progress reports on certain children. Repeals language regarding destitute children. Repeals the definition of "kinship caregiver". Adds cross references. Makes technical corrections.

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January 13, 2012

Second Regular Session 117th General Assembly (2012)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2011 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

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## SENATE BILL No. 287

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning family law and juvenile law.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 4-1-10-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.106-2008,  
2 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 5. (a) A state agency may disclose the Social  
4 Security number of an individual if any of the following apply:  
5 (1) The disclosure of the Social Security number is expressly  
6 required by state law, federal law, or a court order.  
7 (2) The individual expressly consents in writing to the disclosure  
8 of the individual's Social Security number.  
9 (3) The disclosure of the Social Security number is:  
10 (A) made to comply with:  
11 (i) the USA Patriot Act of 2001 (P.L. 107-56); or  
12 (ii) Presidential Executive Order 13224; or  
13 (B) to a commercial entity for the permissible uses set forth in  
14 the:  
15 (i) Drivers Privacy Protection Act (18 U.S.C. 2721 et seq.);

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- 1 (ii) Fair Credit Reporting Act (15 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.); or
- 2 (iii) Financial Modernization Act of 1999 (15 U.S.C. 6801
- 3 et seq.).
- 4 (4) The disclosure of the Social Security number is for the
- 5 purpose of administration of a state agency employee's or the state
- 6 agency employee's dependent's health benefits.
- 7 (5) The disclosure of the Social Security number is for the
- 8 purpose of administration of:
- 9 (A) a pension fund administered by the board of trustees of the
- 10 public employees' retirement fund;
- 11 (B) the Indiana state teachers' retirement fund;
- 12 (C) a deferred compensation plan or defined contribution plan
- 13 established under IC 5-10-1.1;
- 14 (D) a pension plan established by the state police department
- 15 under IC 10-12; **or**
- 16 (E) the Uniform Commercial Code (IC 26-1) by the office of
- 17 the secretary of state; **or**
- 18 **(F) Title IV-D of the federal Social Security Act.**
- 19 (b) A state agency's disclosure of the Social Security number of an
- 20 individual in compliance with subsection (a) does not violate
- 21 IC 5-14-3-4(a)(12).
- 22 SECTION 2. IC 4-13-19-5, AS ADDED BY P.L.182-2009(ss),
- 23 SECTION 55, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 24 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 5. (a) The office of the department of child
- 25 services ombudsman may receive, investigate, and attempt to resolve
- 26 a complaint alleging that the department of child services, by an action
- 27 or omission occurring on or after January 11, 2005, failed to protect the
- 28 physical or mental health or safety of any child or failed to follow
- 29 specific laws, rules, or written policies.
- 30 (b) The office of the department of child services ombudsman may
- 31 also do the following:
- 32 (1) Take action, including the establishing of a program of public
- 33 education, to secure and ensure the legal rights of children.
- 34 (2) Periodically review relevant policies and procedures with a
- 35 view toward the safety and welfare of children.
- 36 (3) When appropriate, refer a person making a report of child
- 37 abuse or neglect to the department of child services and, if
- 38 appropriate, to an appropriate law enforcement agency.
- 39 (4) Recommend changes in procedures for investigating reports
- 40 of abuse and neglect and overseeing the welfare of children who
- 41 are under the jurisdiction of a juvenile court.
- 42 (5) Make the public aware of the services of the ombudsman, the

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1 purpose of the office, and information concerning contacting the  
 2 office.  
 3 (6) Examine policies and procedures and evaluate the  
 4 effectiveness of the child protection system, specifically the  
 5 respective roles of the department of child services, the court, the  
 6 medical community, service providers, guardians ad litem, court  
 7 appointed special advocates, and law enforcement agencies.  
 8 (7) Review and make recommendations concerning investigative  
 9 procedures and emergency responses contained in the report  
 10 prepared under section 10 of this chapter.  
 11 (c) Upon request of the office of the department of child services  
 12 ombudsman, the local child protection team shall assist the office of the  
 13 department of child services ombudsman by  
 14 ~~(1) investigating and making recommendations on a matter. or~~  
 15 ~~(2) redacting or revising any report to be prepared for the~~  
 16 ~~complainant so that confidentiality laws are maintained.~~  
 17 If a local child protection team was involved in an initial investigation,  
 18 a different local child protection team may assist in the investigation  
 19 under this subsection.  
 20 (d) At the end of an investigation of a complaint, the office of the  
 21 department of child services ombudsman shall provide an appropriate  
 22 report as follows:  
 23 (1) If the complainant is a parent, guardian, custodian, court  
 24 appointed special advocate, guardian ad litem, or court, the  
 25 ombudsman may provide the same report to the complainant and  
 26 the department of child services.  
 27 (2) If the complainant is not a person described in subdivision (1),  
 28 the ombudsman shall provide a redacted version of its findings to  
 29 the complainant stating in general terms that the actions of the  
 30 department of child services were or were not appropriate.  
 31 (e) The department of child services ombudsman shall provide a  
 32 copy of the report and recommendations to the department of child  
 33 services. The office of the department of child services ombudsman  
 34 may not disclose to:  
 35 (1) a complainant;  
 36 (2) another person who is not a parent, guardian, or custodian of  
 37 the child who was subject of the department of child services'  
 38 action or omission; or  
 39 (3) the court, court appointed special advocate, or guardian ad  
 40 litem of the child in a case that was filed as a child in need of  
 41 services or a termination of parental rights action;  
 42 any information that the department of child services could not, by law,

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1 reveal to the complainant, parent, guardian, custodian, person, court,  
2 court appointed special advocate, or guardian ad litem.

3 (f) If, after reviewing a complaint or conducting an investigation and  
4 considering the response of an agency, facility, or program and any  
5 other pertinent material, the office of the department of child services  
6 ombudsman determines that the complaint has merit or the  
7 investigation reveals a problem, the ombudsman may recommend that  
8 the agency, facility, or program:

- 9 (1) consider the matter further;  
10 (2) modify or cancel its actions;  
11 (3) alter a rule, order, or internal policy; or  
12 (4) explain more fully the action in question.

13 (g) At the office of the department of child services ombudsman's  
14 request, the agency, facility, or program shall, within a reasonable time,  
15 inform the office of the department of child services ombudsman about  
16 the action taken on the recommendation or the reasons for not  
17 complying with it.

18 (h) The office of the department of child services ombudsman may  
19 not investigate the following:

- 20 (1) A complaint from an employee of the department of child  
21 services that relates to the employee's employment relationship  
22 with the department of child services.  
23 (2) A complaint challenging a department of child services  
24 substantiation of abuse or neglect that is currently the subject of  
25 a pending administrative review procedure before the exhaustion  
26 of administrative remedies provided by law, rule, or written  
27 policy. Investigation of any such complaint received shall be  
28 stayed until the administrative remedy has been exhausted.  
29 However, if the administrative process is not completed or  
30 terminated within six (6) months after initiation of the  
31 administrative process, the office of child services ombudsman  
32 may proceed with its investigation.

33 (i) If the office of the department of child services ombudsman does  
34 not investigate a complaint, the office of the department of child  
35 services ombudsman shall notify the complainant of the decision not  
36 to investigate and the reasons for the decision.

37 SECTION 3. IC 5-22-2-31 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
38 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 31. "Social services"  
39 means services obtained from funds covered by ~~IC 12-13-10;~~  
40 **IC 31-25-2-8.**

41 SECTION 4. IC 12-7-2-141.2 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
42 1, 2012]. Sec. ~~141.2: "Planning council"~~, for purposes of IC 12-14-26;

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1 has the meaning set forth in IC 12-14-26-1.

2 SECTION 5. IC 12-13-5-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.130-2009,  
3 SECTION 17, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
4 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 2. The division shall administer the following:

- 5 (1) A child development associate scholarship program.  
6 (2) Any school age dependent care program.  
7 (3) Migrant day care services.  
8 ~~(4) Prevention services to high risk youth.~~  
9 ~~(5) (4) The migrant nutrition program.~~  
10 ~~(6) (5) The home visitation and social services program.~~  
11 ~~(7) (6) The educational consultants program.~~  
12 ~~(8) (7) Community restitution or service programs.~~  
13 ~~(9) (8) The crisis nursery program.~~  
14 ~~(10) (9) Social services programs.~~  
15 ~~(11) (10) The step ahead comprehensive early childhood grant~~  
16 ~~program.~~  
17 ~~(12) (11) Any other program:~~  
18 (A) designated by the general assembly; or  
19 (B) administered by the federal government under grants  
20 consistent with the duties of the division.

21 SECTION 6. IC 12-13-7-9 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
22 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 9. (a) Money:

- 23 (1) received from the federal government by the treasurer of state  
24 to defray the expenses and pay the claims and obligations  
25 incurred in the administration of the federal Social Security Act;  
26 (2) received from any other source; and  
27 (3) that under IC 12-13 through IC 12-19 the division and county  
28 offices may collect, receive, and administer;

29 shall be paid into the respective funds or respective accounts of the  
30 state general fund.

31 (b) Money received under subsection (a) for the following  
32 population groups shall be deposited as follows:

- 33 (1) Old age assistance shall be paid into the old age assistance  
34 account.  
35 (2) Services for dependent children shall be paid into the aid to  
36 dependent children account.  
37 ~~(3) Assistance in the promotion of child welfare services shall be~~  
38 ~~paid into the child welfare services account.~~  
39 ~~(4) (3) Assistance to the needy blind shall be paid into the needy~~  
40 ~~blind account.~~  
41 ~~(5) (4) Assistance to the needy permanently and totally disabled~~  
42 ~~persons shall be paid into the needy disabled person account.~~

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1 SECTION 7. IC 12-13-7-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.234-2005,  
 2 SECTION 26, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 3 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 12. (a) The division ~~and the department of child~~  
 4 ~~services~~ shall do the following:

5 (1) Prepare and submit to the state board of accounts for approval  
 6 forms and records for assistance, receipts, disbursements,  
 7 advancements, transfers, and other financial transactions  
 8 necessary to administer IC 12-13 through IC 12-19.

9 (2) Disclose financial transactions connected with subdivision (1).

10 (b) Upon the approval and adoption by the state board of accounts,  
 11 the division ~~and the department of child services~~ shall prescribe the  
 12 forms, records, and method of accounting for all counties.

13 SECTION 8. IC 12-13-10 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,  
 14 2012]. (Social Services).

15 SECTION 9. IC 12-13-15.2-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.1-2005,  
 16 SECTION 129, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 17 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 1. ~~Each county office of family and~~  
 18 ~~children~~ **The division of family resources** shall provide to the  
 19 following entities in the county a list of dentists practicing in the county  
 20 who provide dental services under the Medicaid program (IC 12-15) or  
 21 the children's health insurance program (IC 12-17.6):

22 (1) Head Start programs (42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.).

23 (2) Women, infants, and children nutrition programs (as defined  
 24 in IC 16-35-1.5-5).

25 (3) Maternal and child health clinics (as defined in IC 16-46-5-5).

26 (4) The local health department.

27 (5) School nurses appointed under IC 20-34-3-6.

28 (6) Child care centers licensed under IC 12-17.2-4.

29 (7) The township trustees.

30 SECTION 10. IC 12-14-1-1.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.161-2007,  
 31 SECTION 13, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 32 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 1.5. (a) This section does not apply if the:

33 (1) dependent child does not have a living parent or legal  
 34 guardian;

35 (2) whereabouts of the dependent child's parent or legal guardian  
 36 are unknown;

37 (3) dependent child lived apart from the child's parent or legal  
 38 guardian for a period of at least one (1) year before either:

39 (A) the birth of the dependent child's child; or

40 (B) the dependent child's application for TANF;

41 (4) dependent child provides proof, and the division agrees, that  
 42 the physical health or safety of the dependent child or a child of

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1 the dependent child would be jeopardized if the dependent child  
 2 or a child of the dependent child resides with the dependent  
 3 child's parent, legal guardian, or adult relative; or  
 4 (5) dependent child is less than eighteen (18) years of age and is  
 5 not married, but the dependent child or a child of the dependent  
 6 child:

7 (A) has been alleged or adjudicated a child in need of services  
 8 under IC 31-34 (or IC 31-6 before its repeal); or

9 (B) has been placed under the wardship or guardianship of the  
 10 ~~county office.~~ **department of child services.**

11 (b) Except as provided in subsection (d), a dependent child who is  
 12 less than eighteen (18) years of age and is:

13 (1) not married; or

14 (2) married but not residing with or receiving support from a  
 15 spouse;

16 is entitled to assistance under TANF only if the dependent child and  
 17 any children of the dependent child reside with a parent, a legal  
 18 guardian, or an adult relative other than a parent or legal guardian of  
 19 the dependent child. A legal guardian or an adult relative not listed in  
 20 section 1(a)(2)(A) of this chapter must have custody of the child under  
 21 a court order.

22 (c) The assistance for an eligible dependent child and each child of  
 23 an eligible dependent child as described in subsection (b) shall be  
 24 provided to the dependent child's parent, legal guardian, or other adult  
 25 relative based on the eligibility of the parent, legal guardian, or other  
 26 adult relative to receive assistance under TANF.

27 (d) This subsection applies to the parent of:

28 (1) a dependent child who has never married and who:

29 (A) has a child; or

30 (B) is pregnant; and

31 (2) a dependent child who has never married and is adjudicated  
 32 to be the father of a child.

33 The parent of a dependent child described in subdivision (1) or (2) is  
 34 financially responsible for the care of a child of the dependent child  
 35 until the dependent child becomes eighteen (18) years of age.

36 SECTION 11. IC 12-14-26 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,  
 37 2012]. (Planning Councils).

38 SECTION 12. IC 12-14-29-7, AS ADDED BY P.L.92-2005,  
 39 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 40 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 7. A court shall immediately notify the ~~county~~  
 41 ~~office of family and children:~~ **division of family resources local**  
 42 **office:**

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- 1 (1) upon the court's finding of probable cause that an individual
- 2 has committed a felony offense during the period in which the
- 3 individual is eligible for TANF or food stamps; or
- 4 (2) when an individual has been terminated from a reentry court
- 5 program during the period in which the individual is eligible for
- 6 TANF or food stamps.

7 SECTION 13. IC 12-15-8.5-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 8 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 5. (a) The office shall  
 9 obtain a lien under this chapter by filing a notice of lien with the  
 10 recorder of the county in which the real property subject to the lien is  
 11 located. The notice shall be filed prior to the recipient's death and shall  
 12 include the following:

- 13 (1) The name and place of residence of the individual against
- 14 whose property the lien is asserted.
- 15 (2) A legal description of the real property subject to the lien.
- 16 (b) Upon the office's request, the county auditor or assessor of a
- 17 county shall furnish the office with the legal description of any property
- 18 in the county registered to the recipient.

19 (c) The office shall file one (1) copy of the notice of lien with the  
 20 **county office of family and children division of family resources** in  
 21 the county in which the real property is located. The **county office of**  
 22 **family and children division of family resources** shall retain a copy of  
 23 the notice with the **county office's records of the division of family**  
 24 **resources.**

25 (d) The office shall provide one (1) copy of the notice of lien to the  
 26 recipient or the Medicaid recipient's authorized representative, if  
 27 applicable, whose real property is affected.

28 SECTION 14. IC 12-15-8.5-9 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 29 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 9. (a) The office shall  
 30 release a lien imposed under this chapter within ten (10) business days  
 31 after the **county office of family and children division of family**  
 32 **resources** receives notice that the Medicaid recipient:

- 33 (1) is no longer living in the medical institution; and
- 34 (2) has returned home to live.
- 35 (b) The county recorder shall waive the filing fee for the filing of a
- 36 release made under this section.

37 (c) If the property subject to the lien is sold, the office shall release  
 38 its lien at the closing, and the lien shall attach to the net proceeds of the  
 39 sale.

40 SECTION 15. IC 12-17-17 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,  
 41 2012]. (County Child Advocacy Fund).

42 SECTION 16. IC 12-17-19-25, AS AMENDED BY P.L.93-2006,

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1 SECTION 13, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
2 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 25. (a) Each step ahead proposal must provide for  
3 the implementation of a preschool or developmental child care program  
4 for preschool children.

5 (b) The goals of the preschool or developmental child care program  
6 for preschool children are to:

- 7 (1) enhance the child's readiness for learning and facilitate the
- 8 transition from home to school when the preschool child reaches
- 9 the age of compulsory school attendance;
- 10 (2) identify developmental problems or concerns in preschool
- 11 children and make referrals to the appropriate service providers
- 12 or to provide the appropriate services;
- 13 (3) prevent disruptive employment conditions for parents who are
- 14 employed; and
- 15 (4) ensure a continuity in access to step ahead programs as each
- 16 preschool child nears the age of compulsory school attendance.

17 (c) To qualify for an implementation grant under this chapter for  
18 preschool or developmental child care programs for preschool children,  
19 the eligible entity implementing a preschool or developmental child  
20 care program for preschool children must demonstrate cooperation with  
21 the following programs within the county:

- 22 (1) Public schools, particularly those public schools that provide
- 23 preschool or special education preschool services.
- 24 (2) Head Start programs under 42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.
- 25 (3) Infants and toddlers with disabilities programs under
- 26 IC 12-12.7-2.
- 27 (4) County health department programs.
- 28 (5) Private industry council programs.
- 29 (6) Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) programs under 42
- 30 U.S.C. 1786 et seq.
- 31 (7) Community mental retardation and mental health centers that
- 32 provide services to preschool children with disabilities.
- 33 ~~(8) The county office of family and children:~~
- 34 ~~(9)~~ **(8)** Consumer representation groups.

35 SECTION 17. IC 12-17.2-4-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
36 SECTION 96, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
37 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 2. (a) A license may be issued only if a child care  
38 center is in compliance with food, health, safety, and sanitation  
39 standards as determined by the division under rules adopted by the  
40 division under IC 12-17.2-2-4 or in accordance with a variance or  
41 waiver approved by the division under IC 12-17.2-2-10.

42 (b) A license may be issued only if the child care center is in

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1 substantial compliance with the fire and life safety rules as determined  
2 by the state fire marshal under rules adopted by the division under  
3 IC 12-17.2-2-4 or in accordance with a variance or waiver approved by  
4 the division under IC 12-17.2-2-10.

5 (c) The division may issue a waiver or variance regarding a  
6 determination by the division or the state fire marshal under  
7 subsections (a) and (b).

8 (d) At least one (1) adult individual who maintains annual  
9 certification in a course of cardiopulmonary resuscitation applicable to  
10 all age groups of children cared for by the child care center shall be  
11 present at all times when a child is in the care of a child care center.

12 (e) An individual who:

- 13 (1) is employed; or
- 14 (2) volunteers;

15 as a caregiver at a child care center shall maintain current certification  
16 in first aid applicable to all age groups of children cared for by the  
17 child care center.

18 ~~(f) Upon request, the county office of family and children shall~~  
19 ~~provide, within forty-eight (48) hours, excluding weekends and~~  
20 ~~holidays, copies of substantiated noncompliances and other~~  
21 ~~substantiated complaints filed with the division of family resources~~  
22 ~~concerning a licensed child care center.~~

23 SECTION 18. IC 12-26-8-9 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,  
24 2012]. ~~Sec. 9: A juvenile court that commits a child under this article~~  
25 ~~shall require the department of child services for a child who is a child~~  
26 ~~in need of services or the probation department for the court to report~~  
27 ~~to the court on the progress made in implementing the commitment at~~  
28 ~~least every six (6) months. If the committed child is a child in need of~~  
29 ~~services, the department of child services shall perform case reviews~~  
30 ~~of the child's commitment under IC 31-34-21.~~

31 SECTION 19. IC 16-37-2-2.1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.25-2010,  
32 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
33 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 2.1. (a) A paternity affidavit may be executed as  
34 provided in this section through:

- 35 (1) a hospital; or
- 36 (2) a local health department.

37 (b) Immediately before or after the birth of a child who is born out  
38 of wedlock, a person who attends or plans to attend the birth, including  
39 personnel of all public or private birthing hospitals, shall:

- 40 (1) provide an opportunity for:
  - 41 (A) the child's mother; and
  - 42 (B) a man who reasonably appears to be the child's biological

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- 1 father;
- 2 to execute an affidavit acknowledging paternity of the child; and
- 3 (2) verbally explain to the individuals listed in subdivision (1) the
- 4 legal effects of an executed paternity affidavit as described in
- 5 subsection ~~(h)~~: **(j)**.
- 6 (c) A paternity affidavit must be executed on a form provided by the
- 7 state department. The paternity affidavit is valid only if the affidavit is
- 8 executed as follows:
- 9 (1) If executed through a hospital, the paternity affidavit must be
- 10 completed not more than seventy-two (72) hours after the child's
- 11 birth.
- 12 (2) If executed through a local health department, the paternity
- 13 affidavit must be completed before the child has reached the age
- 14 of emancipation.
- 15 (d) A paternity affidavit is not valid if it is executed after the mother
- 16 of the child has executed a consent to adoption of the child and a
- 17 petition to adopt the child has been filed.
- 18 **(e) A paternity affidavit form executed under this section must**
- 19 **contain the following:**
- 20 **(1) The mother's:**
- 21 **(A) full name;**
- 22 **(B) Social Security number;**
- 23 **(C) date of birth; and**
- 24 **(D) address.**
- 25 **(2) The father's:**
- 26 **(A) full name;**
- 27 **(B) Social Security number;**
- 28 **(C) date of birth; and**
- 29 **(D) address.**
- 30 **(3) The child's:**
- 31 **(A) full name;**
- 32 **(B) date of birth; and**
- 33 **(C) birthplace.**
- 34 **(4) A brief explanation of the legal significance of signing a**
- 35 **voluntary paternity affidavit.**
- 36 **(5) A statement signed by both parents indicating that:**
- 37 **(A) they understand that signing a paternity**
- 38 **acknowledgment affidavit is voluntary;**
- 39 **(B) they understand:**
- 40 **(i) their rights and responsibilities under the affidavit;**
- 41 **(ii) the alternatives to signing the affidavit; and**
- 42 **(iii) the consequences of signing the affidavit; and**

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- 1           **(C) they have been informed of the alternatives to signing**
- 2           **the affidavit.**
- 3           **(6) Separate signature lines for the mother and father.**
- 4           **(7) Separate signature lines for the witness or notary**
- 5           **indicating that the witness or notary observed the father or**
- 6           **mother signing the affidavit.**
- 7           **(f) Before a paternity affidavit is signed, both the mother and**
- 8           **father must be informed of the alternatives to signing the affidavit.**
- 9           ~~(e)~~ **(g)** A paternity affidavit executed under this section must contain
- 10          or be attached to all of the following:
- 11           (1) The mother's sworn statement asserting that a person
- 12           described in subsection (b)(1)(B) is the child's biological father.
- 13           (2) A statement by a person identified as the father under
- 14           subdivision (1) attesting to a belief that he is the child's biological
- 15           father.
- 16           (3) Written information furnished by the child support bureau of
- 17           the department of child services:
- 18           (A) explaining the effect of an executed paternity affidavit as
- 19           described in subsection ~~(h)~~; **(j)**; and
- 20           (B) describing the availability of child support enforcement
- 21           services.
- 22           (4) The Social Security number of each parent.
- 23          ~~(f)~~ **(h)** A paternity affidavit executed under this section must contain
- 24          all of the following:
- 25           (1) A statement:
- 26           (A) that, if the mother and the person described in subsection
- 27           ~~(e)~~**(2) (g)(2)** check the box located next to this statement and
- 28           sign on the signature lines described in subdivision (2), the
- 29           mother and the person described in subsection ~~(e)~~**(2) (g)(2)**
- 30           agree to share joint legal custody of the child; and
- 31           (B) that joint legal custody means that the persons sharing
- 32           joint legal custody:
- 33           (i) share authority and responsibility for the major decisions
- 34           concerning the child's upbringing, including the child's
- 35           education, health care, and religious training; and
- 36           (ii) have equal access to the child's school and medical
- 37           records.
- 38           (2) Two ~~(2)~~ signature lines located below the statements
- 39           described in subdivision (1).
- 40           (3) A statement that, if the mother and the person described in
- 41           subsection ~~(e)~~**(2) (g)(2)** do not agree to share joint legal custody,
- 42           the mother has sole legal custody unless another determination is

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1 made by a court in a proceeding under IC 31-14.  
 2 (4) A statement that even if the mother and the person described  
 3 in subsection ~~(e)(2)~~ **(g)(2)** share joint legal custody, the mother  
 4 has primary physical custody of the child unless another  
 5 determination is made by a court in a proceeding under IC 31-14.  
 6 (5) A statement that, if the mother and the person described in  
 7 subsection ~~(e)(2)~~ **(g)(2)** agree to share joint legal custody as  
 8 described under subdivision (1)(A), the agreement to share joint  
 9 legal custody is void unless the result of a genetic test performed  
 10 by an accredited laboratory:  
 11 (A) indicates that the person described in subsection ~~(e)(2)~~  
 12 **(g)(2)** is the child's biological father; and  
 13 (B) is submitted to a local health officer not later than sixty  
 14 (60) days after the child's birth.  
 15 (6) A statement with signature lines that affirms that an individual  
 16 described in subsection ~~(f)~~ **(t)** has had an opportunity to consult  
 17 with an adult chosen by the individual.  
 18 ~~(g)~~ **(i)** A woman who knowingly or intentionally falsely names a  
 19 man as the child's biological father under this section commits a Class  
 20 A misdemeanor.  
 21 ~~(h)~~ **(j)** A paternity affidavit executed under this section:  
 22 (1) establishes paternity;  
 23 (2) gives rise to parental rights and responsibilities of the person  
 24 described in subsection ~~(e)(2)~~; **(g)(2)**, including:  
 25 (A) the right of the child's mother or the Title IV-D agency to  
 26 obtain a child support order against the person, which may  
 27 include an order requiring the provision of health insurance  
 28 coverage; and  
 29 (B) parenting time in accordance with the parenting time  
 30 guidelines adopted by the Indiana supreme court, unless  
 31 another determination is made by a court in a proceeding  
 32 under IC 31-14-14; and  
 33 (3) may be filed with a court by the department of child services.  
 34 However, if a paternity affidavit is executed under this section, unless  
 35 another determination is made by a court in a proceeding under  
 36 IC 31-14 or the child's mother and the person described in subsection  
 37 ~~(e)(2)~~ **(g)(2)** agree to share joint legal custody of the child as described  
 38 in subsection ~~(f)~~; **(h)**, the child's mother has sole legal and primary  
 39 physical custody of the child.  
 40 ~~(i)~~ **(k)** Notwithstanding any other law, a man who is a party to a  
 41 paternity affidavit executed under this section may, within sixty (60)  
 42 days of the date that a paternity affidavit is executed under this section,

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1 file an action in a court with jurisdiction over paternity to request an  
2 order for a genetic test.

3 ~~(j)~~ **(l)** A paternity affidavit that is properly executed under this  
4 section may not be rescinded more than sixty (60) days after the  
5 paternity affidavit is executed unless a court:

6 (1) has determined that fraud, duress, or material mistake of fact  
7 existed in the execution of the paternity affidavit; and

8 (2) at the request of a man described in subsection ~~(j)~~, **(k)**, has  
9 ordered a genetic test, and the test indicates that the man is  
10 excluded as the father of the child.

11 ~~(k)~~ **(m)** Unless good cause is shown, a court shall not suspend the  
12 legal responsibilities under subsection ~~(h)(2)(A)~~ **(j)(2)(A)** of a party to  
13 the executed paternity affidavit during a challenge to the affidavit.

14 ~~(j)~~ **(n)** The court may not set aside the paternity affidavit unless a  
15 genetic test ordered under subsection ~~(j)~~ **(k)** or ~~(j)~~ **(l)** excludes the  
16 person who executed the paternity affidavit as the child's biological  
17 father.

18 ~~(m)~~ **(o)** If a paternity affidavit is not executed under subsection (b),  
19 the hospital where the birth occurs or a person in attendance at the birth  
20 shall inform the child's mother of services available for establishing  
21 paternity.

22 ~~(n)~~ **(p)** Except as provided in this section, if a man has executed a  
23 paternity affidavit in accordance with this section, the executed  
24 paternity affidavit conclusively establishes the man as the legal father  
25 of a child without any further proceedings by a court.

26 ~~(o)~~ **(q)** If both the mother and the person described in subsection  
27 ~~(e)(2)~~ **(g)(2)** check the box and sign as described in subsection  
28 ~~(f)(1)(A)~~, **(h)(1)(A)**, the mother and the person described in subsection  
29 ~~(e)(2)~~: **(g)(2)**:

- 30 (1) share joint legal custody of the child; and
- 31 (2) have equal access to the child's school and medical records.

32 An action to establish custody or parenting time of a party who has  
33 agreed under subsection ~~(f)~~ **(h)** to share joint legal custody shall be  
34 tried de novo.

35 ~~(p)~~ **(r)** Before a paternity affidavit executed under this section is  
36 signed, it must be presented separately to:

- 37 (1) the child's mother; and
- 38 (2) the man who reasonably appears to be the child's biological  
39 father;

40 so that the child's mother may review the affidavit alone and without  
41 the presence of the man who reasonably appears to be the child's  
42 biological father, and so that the man who reasonably appears to be the

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1 child's biological father may review the affidavit alone and without the  
 2 presence of the child's mother. A signed paternity affidavit is voidable  
 3 if the requirements of this subsection are not satisfied.

4 ~~(q)~~ **(s)** An agreement to share joint legal custody described under  
 5 subsection ~~(f)~~ **(h)** is void if either of the following applies:

6 (1) A genetic test performed by an accredited laboratory indicates  
 7 a person described in subsection ~~(e)~~~~(2)~~ **(g)**~~(2)~~ is not the biological  
 8 father of the child.

9 (2) A person described in subsection ~~(e)~~~~(2)~~ **(g)**~~(2)~~ fails to submit:  
 10 (A) to a local health officer; and  
 11 (B) not later than sixty (60) days after the date of the child's  
 12 birth;  
 13 the results of a genetic test performed by an accredited laboratory  
 14 that indicates the person is the biological father of the child.

15 ~~(r)~~ **(t)** An individual who is:

- 16 (1) a:  
 17 (A) child's mother; or  
 18 (B) person identified as the father under subsection ~~(e)~~~~(1)~~;  
 19 **(g)**~~(1)~~; and  
 20 (2) less than eighteen (18) years of age;

21 must have an opportunity to consult with any adult chosen by the  
 22 individual regarding the contents of a paternity affidavit before signing  
 23 the paternity affidavit under this section. A signed paternity affidavit  
 24 is voidable if the individual does not have the opportunity to consult  
 25 with an adult chosen by the individual.

26 SECTION 20. IC 29-3-9-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.146-2008,  
 27 SECTION 531, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 28 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 11. ~~(a) The department of child~~  
 29 ~~services shall investigate and report to the court concerning the~~  
 30 ~~conditions and circumstances of a minor and the fitness and conduct of~~  
 31 ~~the guardian or the proposed guardian whenever ordered to do so by~~  
 32 ~~the court.~~

33 ~~(b)~~ The office of the secretary of family and social services shall  
 34 investigate and report to the court concerning the conditions and  
 35 circumstances of a minor or an alleged incapacitated adult or protected  
 36 person who is an adult and the fitness and conduct of the guardian or  
 37 the proposed guardian whenever ordered to do so by the court.

38 SECTION 21. IC 31-9-2-0.4, AS ADDED BY P.L.1-2009,  
 39 SECTION 154, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 40 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 0.4. "Abandoned child", for  
 41 purposes of IC 31-34-21-4 and IC 31-35-2-6.5, means a child who is,  
 42 or who appears to be, not more than ~~forty-five (45)~~ **thirty (30)** days of

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1 age and whose parent:  
 2 (1) has knowingly or intentionally left the child with an  
 3 emergency medical services provider; and  
 4 (2) did not express an intent to return for the child.

5 SECTION 22. IC 31-9-2-0.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.1-2009,  
 6 SECTION 155, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 7 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 0.5. "Abandoned infant", for  
 8 purposes of IC 31-34-21-5.6, means:

9 (1) a child who is less than twelve (12) months of age and whose  
 10 parent, guardian, or custodian has knowingly or intentionally left  
 11 the child in:

- 12 (A) an environment that endangers the child's life or health; or
- 13 (B) a hospital or medical facility;
- 14 and has no reasonable plan to assume the care, custody, and
- 15 control of the child; or

16 (2) a child who is, or who appears to be, not more than ~~forty-five~~  
 17 **(45) thirty (30)** days of age and whose parent:

- 18 (A) has knowingly or intentionally left the child with an
- 19 emergency medical services provider; and
- 20 (B) did not express an intent to return for the child.

21 SECTION 23. IC 31-9-2-9.3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.146-2008,  
 22 SECTION 533, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 23 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 9.3. (a) "Applicant", for purposes  
 24 of IC 31-25-3, IC 31-25-4, ~~IC 31-26-2~~, and IC 31-26-3.5, means a  
 25 person who has applied for assistance for the applicant or another  
 26 person.

27 (b) "Applicant", for purposes of IC 31-27, means a person who  
 28 seeks a license to operate a child caring institution, foster family home,  
 29 group home, or child placing agency.

30 SECTION 24. IC 31-9-2-9.7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.146-2008,  
 31 SECTION 534, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 32 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 9.7. "Assistance", for purposes of  
 33 the following statutes, means money or services regardless of the  
 34 source, paid or furnished under any of the following statutes:

- 35 (1) IC 31-25-3.
- 36 (2) IC 31-25-4.
- 37 ~~(3) IC 31-26-2.~~
- 38 **(4) (3) IC 31-26-3.5.**

39 SECTION 25. IC 31-9-2-10.3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.146-2008,  
 40 SECTION 535, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 41 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 10.3. "Blind", for purposes of  
 42 IC 31-25-3, IC 31-25-4, ~~IC 31-26-2~~, IC 31-28-1, IC 31-28-2, and

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1 IC 31-28-3, means an individual who has vision in the better eye with  
2 correcting glasses of 20/200 or less, or a disqualifying visual field  
3 defect as determined upon examination by an ophthalmologist or  
4 optometrist who has been designated to make such examinations by the  
5 **county local** office and approved by the department.

6 SECTION 26. IC 31-9-2-17.8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.229-2011,  
7 SECTION 255, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
8 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 17.8. "Child services", for purposes  
9 of this title, means the following:

10 (1) Services, other than services that are costs of secure detention,  
11 specifically provided by or on behalf of the department for or on  
12 behalf of children who are:

13 (A) adjudicated to be:

14 (i) children in need of services under IC 31-34; or

15 (ii) delinquent children under IC 31-37;

16 (B) parties in a child in need of services case filed under  
17 IC 31-34 or in a delinquency case filed under IC 31-37 before  
18 adjudication or entry of a dispositional decree;

19 (C) subject to temporary care or supervision by the department  
20 under any applicable provision of IC 31-33, IC 31-34, or  
21 IC 31-37;

22 (D) recipients or beneficiaries of a program of informal  
23 adjustment approved under IC 31-34-8 or IC 31-37-9; or

24 (E) recipients or beneficiaries of:

25 (i) adoption assistance or kinship guardianship assistance  
26 under Title IV-E of the federal Social Security Act (42  
27 U.S.C. 673), as amended;

28 (ii) adoption subsidies or assistance under IC 31-19-26.5;

29 (iii) assistance, including emergency assistance or assisted  
30 guardianships, provided under Title IV-A of the federal  
31 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.), as amended; or

32 (iv) other financial assistance provided to or for the benefit  
33 of a child who was previously adjudicated as a child in need  
34 of services or delinquent child, including a legal  
35 guardianship established to implement a permanency plan  
36 under IC 31-34-21-7.5(c)(1)(E) if IC 29-3-8-9 applies and  
37 the assistance is approved under a rule or published policy  
38 of the department.

39 (2) Costs of using an institution or facility for providing  
40 educational services to children described in subdivision (1)(A),  
41 under either IC 20-33-2-29 (if applicable) or IC 20-26-11-13 (if  
42 applicable).

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1 (3) Assistance awarded by the department to a destitute child  
2 under IC 31-26-2.

3 SECTION 27. IC 31-9-2-26 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,  
4 2012]. Sec. 26: "County office" or "county office of family and  
5 children"; for purposes of this title; refers to a local office of the  
6 department.

7 SECTION 28. IC 31-9-2-72.5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
8 1, 2012]. Sec. 72.5: (a) "Kinship caregiver"; for purposes of  
9 IC 31-25-2-20; means a person who is:

- 10 (1) at least eighteen (18) years of age;
- 11 (2) related to a child by blood; adoption; or marriage or is a  
12 godparent or stepparent of the child; and
- 13 (3) the primary caregiver for and provider of financial support of  
14 a child described in subdivision (2) who is residing with the  
15 person.

16 (b) The term includes a grandparent; a great grandparent; a sibling;  
17 an uncle; an aunt; a nephew; a niece; or a first cousin.

18 SECTION 29. IC 31-9-2-99.7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.146-2008,  
19 SECTION 547, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
20 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 99.7. "Public welfare", for purposes  
21 of IC 31-25-3 and IC 31-25-4, and ~~IC 31-26-2~~; means any form of  
22 public welfare or Social Security provided in IC 31-25-3 or IC 31-25-4.  
23 or ~~IC 31-26-2~~. The term does not include direct township assistance as  
24 administered by township trustees under IC 12-20.

25 SECTION 30. IC 31-9-2-102.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.146-2008,  
26 SECTION 548, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
27 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 102.5. "Recipient", for purposes of  
28 IC 31-25-3 and IC 31-25-4, and ~~IC 31-26-2~~; means a person who has  
29 received or is receiving assistance for the person or another person.

30 SECTION 31. IC 31-9-2-135, AS AMENDED BY P.L.146-2008,  
31 SECTION 554, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
32 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 135. (a) "Warrant", for purposes of  
33 IC 31-25-3 and IC 31-25-4, and ~~IC 31-26-2~~; means an instrument that  
34 is:

- 35 (1) the equivalent of a money payment; and
- 36 (2) immediately convertible into cash by the payee for the full  
37 face amount of the instrument.

38 (b) "Warrant", for purposes of the Uniform Child Custody  
39 Jurisdiction Act under IC 31-21, has the meaning set forth in  
40 IC 31-21-2-21.

41 SECTION 32. IC 31-14-11-12 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
42 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 12. (a) If the clerk of

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1 the court is notified by the Title IV-D agency or the agency's designee  
2 that:

3 (1) the child who is the beneficiary of a support order is receiving  
4 assistance under the:

5 (A) federal Title IV-A assistance program (42 U.S.C. 601 et  
6 seq.); or

7 (B) Title IV-E assistance program (42 U.S.C. 671 et seq.);  
8 and

9 (2) an assignment of support rights in favor of the state is in effect  
10 against the person obligated to make child support payments; and

11 (3) the Title IV-D agency has sent notice to the child support  
12 obligor and obligee;

13 the clerk of the court shall forward the child support payments directly  
14 to the Title IV-D agency without further order of the court.

15 (b) The Title IV-D agency shall disburse the child support payments  
16 in accordance with federal regulations governing the Title IV-D  
17 program.

18 SECTION 33. IC 31-14-11-13 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
19 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 13. (a) The clerk shall  
20 maintain records listing the following:

- 21 (1) The amount of child support payments.
- 22 (2) The date when child support payments must be made.
- 23 (3) The names and addresses of the parties affected by the order.
- 24 (4) The information required to be submitted to the clerk by  
25 sections 14, and 15, and 16 of this chapter.

26 (b) If the clerk elects under IC 5-13-6-4(a) not to follow the  
27 accounting and depository procedures required by IC 5-13-6, the clerk  
28 shall comply with IC 5-13-6-4(b).

29 (c) **A record created under this section is the official record of  
30 the collection, disbursement, and distribution of child support  
31 payments.**

32 SECTION 34. IC 31-14-11-14, AS AMENDED BY P.L.80-2010,  
33 SECTION 24, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
34 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 14. (a) The custodial parent and the noncustodial  
35 parent shall furnish the following information to the clerk of the court  
36 for entry into the Indiana support enforcement tracking system (ISETS)  
37 **or its successor statewide automated support enforcement system**  
38 at the time of the issuance or modification of a child support order:

- 39 (1) Except as provided in subsection (b), the parent's:
  - 40 (A) Social Security number;
  - 41 (B) current residence and mailing address;
  - 42 (C) telephone numbers;

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1 (D) date of birth; and  
 2 (E) driver's license number.  
 3 (2) The name and address of the parent's employer.  
 4 (b) An individual certified as a program participant in the address  
 5 confidentiality program under IC 5-26.5 is not required to provide the  
 6 individual's current residence and mailing address if the individual  
 7 provides an address designated by the office of the attorney general  
 8 under IC 5-26.5 as the individual's current residence and mailing  
 9 address.  
 10 SECTION 35. IC 31-16-6-9, AS ADDED BY P.L.80-2010,  
 11 SECTION 31, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 12 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 9. (a) The custodial parent and noncustodial  
 13 parent shall furnish the following information to the clerk of the court  
 14 for entry into the Indiana support enforcement tracking system (ISETS)  
 15 **or its successor statewide automated support enforcement system**  
 16 at the time of the issuance or modification of a child support order:  
 17 (1) Except as provided in subsection (b), the parent's:  
 18 (A) Social Security number;  
 19 (B) current residence and mailing address;  
 20 (C) telephone numbers;  
 21 (D) date of birth; and  
 22 (E) driver's license number.  
 23 (2) The name, telephone number, and address of the parent's  
 24 employer.  
 25 (b) An individual certified as a program participant in the address  
 26 confidentiality program under IC 5-26.5 is not required to provide the  
 27 individual's current residence and mailing address if the individual  
 28 provides an address designated by the office of the attorney general  
 29 under IC 5-26.5 as the individual's current residence and mailing  
 30 address.  
 31 SECTION 36. IC 31-16-6-10, AS ADDED BY P.L.80-2010,  
 32 SECTION 32, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 33 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 10. (a) Except as provided in subsection (c), a  
 34 party affected by a support order shall inform the clerk of the court and  
 35 the state central collection unit established within the child support  
 36 bureau by IC 31-25-3-1 of any change of address not more than fifteen  
 37 (15) days after the party's address is changed.  
 38 (b) At the time of the issuance or modification of a support order,  
 39 the parties affected by the order shall inform the clerk of the court and  
 40 the state central collection unit established within the child support  
 41 bureau by IC 31-25-3-1 of:  
 42 (1) whether any of the parties is receiving or has received

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- 1 assistance under the:
- 2 (A) federal Aid to Families with Dependent Children program
- 3 (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.); or
- 4 (B) federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- 5 program (45 CFR 260 et seq.); and
- 6 (2) the Social Security number of any child affected by the order.

7 The Social Security number required under subdivision (2) shall be  
 8 **maintained in the Indiana support enforcement tracking system**  
 9 **(ISETS) or its successor statewide automated support enforcement**  
 10 **system and shall be** kept confidential and may be used only to carry  
 11 out the purposes of the Title IV-D program.

12 (c) A party who is an individual certified as a program participant  
 13 in the address confidentiality program under IC 5-26.5 is not required  
 14 to provide the individual's current residence and mailing address if the  
 15 individual provides an address designated by the office of the attorney  
 16 general under IC 5-26.5 as the individual's principal residence and  
 17 mailing address.

18 SECTION 37. IC 31-16-10-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 19 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 1. Upon entering an  
 20 order under IC 31-16-6-1 or at any subsequent time, the court may  
 21 order, upon the proper showing that a person other than the person  
 22 awarded custody under IC 31-17-2-8 (or IC 31-1-11.5-21 before its  
 23 repeal) should receive payments, that the clerk of the circuit court or  
 24 the person obligated to make the payments transmit those payments to  
 25 any third person agreed upon by the parties and approved by the court  
 26 or appointed by the court, including the following:

- 27 (1) A trustee.
- 28 (2) The guardian of the estate of the child.
- 29 (3) Any third person.
- 30 (4) ~~The county office of family and children department~~ or any
- 31 appropriate social service agency.
- 32 (5) The state agency administering Title IV-D of the federal
- 33 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 651 through 669).
- 34 (6) The township trustee.

35 SECTION 38. IC 31-16-10-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.1-2009,  
 36 SECTION 159, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 37 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 2. (a) If the clerk of the court or the  
 38 state central collection unit is notified by the Title IV-D agency or the  
 39 agency's designee that:

- 40 (1) the child who is the beneficiary of a support order is receiving
- 41 assistance under the:
- 42 (A) federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

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- 1 program (45 CFR 260 et seq.); **or**  
 2 **(B) Title IV-E assistance program (42 U.S.C. 670 et seq.);**  
 3 **and**  
 4 (2) an assignment of support rights in favor of the state is in effect  
 5 against the person obligated to make child support payments; **and**  
 6 **(3) the Title IV-D agency has sent notice to the child support**  
 7 **obligor and obligee;**  
 8 the clerk of the court or the state central collection unit shall forward  
 9 the child support payments directly to the Title IV-D agency without  
 10 further order of the court.  
 11 (b) The Title IV-D agency shall disburse the payments in  
 12 accordance with federal regulations governing the Title IV-D program.  
 13 SECTION 39. IC 31-16-15-2.7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.80-2010,  
 14 SECTION 39, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 15 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 2.7. (a) The bureau shall:  
 16 (1) prescribe standard forms for:  
 17 (A) an income withholding order; and  
 18 (B) a notice form; and  
 19 (2) make the forms listed in subdivision (1) available to:  
 20 (A) a court;  
 21 (B) a private attorney;  
 22 (C) an obligor; and  
 23 (D) an obligee.  
 24 (b) An income withholding order under this chapter must be issued  
 25 in a form substantially similar to the form prescribed under subsection  
 26 (a)(1)(A).  
 27 (c) An income withholding order form under subsection (a)(1)(A)  
 28 must contain the following:  
 29 (1) The amount of income to be withheld.  
 30 (2) A statement that the total amount of income to be withheld is  
 31 the sum of the following:  
 32 (A) The obligor's current child support obligation.  
 33 (B) The amount of any child support arrearage ordered by the  
 34 court.  
 35 (C) An additional amount as determined under section 2.5(f)  
 36 of this chapter for:  
 37 (i) any arrearage that has not been adjudicated, if no  
 38 arrearage has been adjudicated previously; or  
 39 (ii) any additional arrearage that has not been adjudicated  
 40 and accrues since the last adjudication of arrearage by the  
 41 court.  
 42 (D) A fee of two dollars (\$2) that must be paid at the income

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- 1 payor's option to the income payor each time the income payor  
 2 forwards income to the state central collection unit.
- 3 (3) A statement that the total amount withheld under the income  
 4 withholding order plus the fee under subdivision (2)(D) may not  
 5 exceed the maximum amount permitted under 15 U.S.C. 1673(b).
- 6 (4) A statement that an income payor shall:
- 7 (A) begin withholding income not later than the first pay date  
 8 after fourteen (14) days following the date the income  
 9 withholding order is received by the income payor; and  
 10 (B) report to the state central collection unit the date on which  
 11 the income was withheld from the obligor's income.
- 12 (5) A statement that if an income payor is required to withhold  
 13 income from more than one (1) obligor, the income payor may  
 14 combine the withheld amount of income into a single payment for  
 15 all obligors who are required to make payments to the state  
 16 central collection unit if the income payor identifies the part of the  
 17 single payment that is attributable to each individual obligor.
- 18 (6) A statement that if the obligor has:
- 19 (A) more than one (1) income withholding order against the  
 20 obligor; and  
 21 (B) insufficient disposable earnings to pay the amount of  
 22 income withholding for all income withholding orders;  
 23 an income payor shall honor all withholdings to the extent that the  
 24 total amount withheld does not exceed limits imposed under 15  
 25 U.S.C. 1673(b).
- 26 (7) A statement that the income payor shall distribute the withheld  
 27 income pro rata among the persons entitled to receive income  
 28 under the income withholding orders, giving priority to orders for  
 29 current child support.
- 30 (8) A statement that the income payor may not distribute income  
 31 as described under subdivision (7) in a manner that would result  
 32 in one (1) of the current child support obligations not being  
 33 honored.
- 34 (9) A statement that the income payor shall forward the amount  
 35 withheld for current support and any arrears to the state central  
 36 collection unit with a statement identifying the:
- 37 (A) cause number for the obligee;  
 38 (B) name of the obligor;  
 39 (C) name of the obligee with the applicable income withheld  
 40 for each obligee forwarded from the income payor; **and**  
 41 ~~(D) Social Security number of each obligee; and~~  
 42 ~~(E)~~ **(D)** Indiana support enforcement tracking system (ISETS)

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- or its successor statewide automated support enforcement system** number for each obligee.
- (10) A statement that the income withholding order is binding upon the income payor until further notice by the Title IV-D agency.
- (11) A statement that if an income payor:
  - (A) discharges the obligor from employment;
  - (B) refuses to employ the obligor;
  - (C) takes disciplinary action against the obligor employed by the income payor; or
  - (D) otherwise discriminates against the obligor;
 because of the existence of an income withholding order or the obligations imposed upon the income payor by the income withholding order, the income payor is subject to a penalty of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) payable to the state and recoverable in a civil action.
- (12) A statement that if an income payor fails to withhold income in accordance with the income withholding order, the income payor is liable for:
  - (A) the accumulated amount the income payor should have withheld from the obligor's income; and
  - (B) any interest, attorney's fees, and costs.
- (13) A statement that an income withholding order under this chapter has priority over any secured or unsecured claim on income, except for claims for federal, state, and local taxes.
- (14) A statement that an income payor must:
  - (A) notify the Title IV-D agency if the obligor:
    - (i) ceases employment with; or
    - (ii) no longer receives income from;
 the income payor, not later than ten (10) days after the date the obligor's employment or income ceases; and
  - (B) provide the obligor's last known address and the name and address of the obligor's new income payor, if known, to the Title IV-D agency.

SECTION 40. IC 31-16-15-3.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.103-2007, SECTION 28, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 3.5. (a) Except as provided under section 2.5(c) of this chapter, a Title IV-D agency shall issue a notice of intent to withhold income to an obligor before the Title IV-D agency implements an income withholding order under section 2.5 of this chapter. The notice is sufficient for all future income withholding until the child support obligation is fully satisfied.

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- 1 (b) The notice under subsection (a) must contain the following:  
 2 (1) A statement that an income withholding order will be sent to  
 3 all current and future income payors.  
 4 (2) If applicable, the amount of child support that the obligor is in  
 5 arrears.  
 6 (3) A statement that the income shall be:  
 7 (A) withheld by a current and future income payor from the  
 8 obligor's income for the payment of child support; and  
 9 (B) forwarded to the state central collection unit with a  
 10 statement identifying the:  
 11 (i) cause number for the obligee;  
 12 (ii) name of the obligor;  
 13 (iii) name of the obligee with the applicable income  
 14 withheld for each obligee forwarded from the income payor;  
 15 **and**  
 16 ~~(iv) Social Security number of each obligee; and~~  
 17 **(iv) Indiana support enforcement tracking system**  
 18 **(ISETS) or its successor statewide automated support**  
 19 **enforcement system** number for each obligee.  
 20 (4) A statement that the total amount of income to be withheld by  
 21 the Title IV-D agency under the income withholding order is the  
 22 sum of:  
 23 (A) the obligor's current child support obligation; plus  
 24 (B) the amount of any arrearage payment ordered by the court;  
 25 plus  
 26 (C) an additional amount as determined under section 2.5(f) of  
 27 this chapter for:  
 28 (i) any arrearage that has not been adjudicated, if no  
 29 arrearage has been adjudicated previously; or  
 30 (ii) any additional arrearage that has not been adjudicated  
 31 and accrues since the last adjudication of arrearage by the  
 32 court; plus  
 33 (D) a fee of two dollars (\$2), which must be paid at the income  
 34 payor's option to the income payor each time the income payor  
 35 forwards income to the state central collection unit.  
 36 (5) A statement that:  
 37 (A) the total amount withheld under the income withholding  
 38 order may not exceed the maximum amount permitted under  
 39 15 U.S.C. 1673(b);  
 40 (B) the income withholding order applies to the receipt of any  
 41 current or subsequent income from a current or future income  
 42 payor;

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1 (C) the obligor may contest the Title IV-D agency's  
 2 determination to implement an income withholding order by  
 3 making written application to the Title IV-D agency not more  
 4 than twenty (20) days after the date the notice under this  
 5 section is mailed to the obligor;  
 6 (D) the only basis for contesting the implementation of an  
 7 income withholding order is a mistake of fact;  
 8 (E) if the obligor contests the Title IV-D agency's  
 9 determination to implement the income withholding order, the  
 10 Title IV-D agency shall schedule an administrative hearing;  
 11 (F) if the obligor does not contest the Title IV-D agency's  
 12 determination to implement an income withholding order  
 13 within the period of time required under section 4.3 of this  
 14 chapter, the Title IV-D agency shall implement the income  
 15 withholding order;  
 16 (G) an income payor shall:  
 17 (i) begin withholding income not later than the first pay date  
 18 after fourteen (14) days following the date the income  
 19 withholding order is received by the income payor; and  
 20 (ii) report to the state central collection unit the date on  
 21 which the income was withheld from the obligor's income;  
 22 (H) if an income payor is required to withhold income from  
 23 more than one (1) obligor, the income payor may combine the  
 24 withheld amount of income into a single payment for all  
 25 obligors who are required to make payments to the state  
 26 central collection unit if the income payor identifies the part of  
 27 the single payment that is attributable to each individual  
 28 obligor;  
 29 (I) if the obligor has:  
 30 (i) more than one (1) income withholding order against the  
 31 obligor; and  
 32 (ii) insufficient disposable earnings to pay the amount of  
 33 income withholding for all income withholding orders;  
 34 an income payor shall distribute the withheld income pro rata  
 35 among the persons entitled to receive income under the  
 36 income withholding orders, giving priority to a current income  
 37 withholding order;  
 38 (J) an income payor shall honor all withholdings to the extent  
 39 that the total amount withheld does not exceed limits imposed  
 40 under 15 U.S.C. 1673(b);  
 41 (K) the income withholding order is binding upon the income  
 42 payor until further notice by the Title IV-D agency;

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- 1 (L) an income payor that:
- 2 (i) discharges the obligor from employment;
- 3 (ii) refuses to employ the obligor;
- 4 (iii) takes disciplinary action against the obligor employed
- 5 by the income payor; or
- 6 (iv) otherwise discriminates against the obligor;
- 7 because of the existence of an income withholding order or the
- 8 obligations imposed upon the income payor by the income
- 9 withholding order is subject to a penalty not to exceed five
- 10 thousand dollars (\$5,000) payable to the state and recoverable
- 11 in a civil action;
- 12 (M) if an income payor fails to withhold income in accordance
- 13 with the income withholding order, the income payor is liable
- 14 for:
- 15 (i) the accumulated amount the income payor should have
- 16 withheld from the obligor's income; and
- 17 (ii) any interest, attorney's fees, and costs;
- 18 (N) an income withholding order under this chapter has
- 19 priority over any secured or unsecured claim on income,
- 20 except for claims for federal, state, and local taxes; and
- 21 (O) the income payor must notify the Title IV-D agency if the
- 22 obligor:
- 23 (i) ceases employment with; or
- 24 (ii) no longer receives income from;
- 25 the income payor, not later than ten (10) days after the date the
- 26 obligor's employment or income ceases, and provide the
- 27 obligor's last known address and the name and address of the
- 28 obligor's new income payor, if known, to the Title IV-D
- 29 agency.
- 30 (c) If the Title IV-D agency issues a notice of intent to withhold
- 31 income to the obligor under this section, the Title IV-D agency is not
- 32 required to provide further notice to continue to implement or amend
- 33 the income withholding order unless the income withholding order is
- 34 stayed by the court under section 0.5(c) of this chapter.
- 35 SECTION 41. IC 31-16-15-5.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.103-2007,
- 36 SECTION 31, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 37 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 5.5. (a) An obligor or an obligee may file a
- 38 petition to lift a stay of implementation of an income withholding
- 39 order.
- 40 (b) If an obligee files a petition under subsection (a), the court shall:
- 41 (1) set a date for a hearing on the petition; and
- 42 (2) send a written notice of the hearing to lift the stay of

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- 1 implementation of the income withholding order to the obligor in  
 2 accordance with subsection (c).  
 3 The court must set a date for the hearing that is not more than twenty  
 4 (20) days after the date the petition is filed.  
 5 (c) The notice under subsection (b)(2) must include the following:  
 6 (1) A statement as to whether the obligor is delinquent in the  
 7 payment of child support.  
 8 (2) If applicable, the amount of child support the obligor is in  
 9 arrears.  
 10 (3) A statement that if the petition is granted, the obligor's income  
 11 shall be:  
 12 (A) withheld by the court for the payment of child support; and  
 13 (B) forwarded to the state central collection unit with a  
 14 statement identifying:  
 15 (i) the cause number for each obligee;  
 16 (ii) the name of each obligor;  
 17 (iii) the name of each obligee with the amount of the  
 18 withheld income forwarded by the income payor;  
 19 (iv) the Social Security number of each obligor; and  
 20 (v) the Indiana support enforcement tracking system  
 21 (ISETS) **or its successor statewide automated support**  
 22 **enforcement system** number for each obligee.  
 23 (4) The following statements:  
 24 (A) That the total amount of income to be withheld under an  
 25 income withholding order from the obligor's income is the sum  
 26 of:  
 27 (i) the obligor's current child support obligation; plus  
 28 (ii) the amount of arrearage payment ordered by the court;  
 29 plus  
 30 (iii) a fee of two dollars (\$2), which must be paid at the  
 31 income payor's option to the income payor each time the  
 32 income payor forwards income to the state central collection  
 33 unit.  
 34 (B) That the total amount of income withheld may not exceed  
 35 the maximum amount permitted by 15 U.S.C. 1673(b).  
 36 (C) That the income withholding order applies to the receipt  
 37 of any current or subsequent income.  
 38 (D) That the only basis for contesting the petition to lift the  
 39 stay of implementation of the income withholding order is a  
 40 mistake of fact.  
 41 (E) That an obligor may contest the court's lifting the stay of  
 42 the income withholding order by appearing at the hearing

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scheduled by the court on the petition to lift the stay.

(F) That if the obligor does not appear at the hearing, the court shall implement the income withholding order.

(G) That an income payor shall:

- (i) begin withholding income not later than the first pay date after fourteen (14) days following the date the income withholding order is received by the income payor; and
- (ii) report to the state central collection unit the date on which the income was withheld from the obligor's income.

(H) That if an income payor is required to withhold income from more than one (1) obligor, the income payor may combine the withheld amount of income into a single payment for all obligors who are required to make payments to the state central collection unit if the income payor identifies the part of the single payment that is attributable to each individual obligor.

(I) That if an obligor has:

- (i) more than one (1) income withholding order against the obligor; and
- (ii) insufficient disposable earnings to pay the amount of income withholding for all income withholding orders;

the income payor shall distribute the withheld income pro rata among the persons entitled to receive income under the income withholding orders, giving priority to a current income withholding order.

(J) That an income payor shall honor all withholding to the extent that the total amount withheld does not exceed limits imposed under 15 U.S.C. 1673(b).

(K) That the income withholding is binding upon the income payor until further notice by the court.

(L) That an income payor that:

- (i) discharges the obligor from employment;
- (ii) refuses to employ the obligor;
- (iii) takes disciplinary action against the obligor employed by the income payor; or
- (iv) otherwise discriminates against the obligor;

because of the existence of an income withholding order or the obligations imposed upon the income payor by the income withholding order, is subject to a penalty not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) payable to the state and recoverable in a civil action.

(M) That if the income payor fails to withhold income in

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1 accordance with the income withholding order, the income  
 2 payor is liable for:  
 3 (i) the accumulated amount the income payor should have  
 4 withheld from the obligor's income; and  
 5 (ii) any interest, attorney's fees, and costs.  
 6 (N) That an income withholding order under this chapter has  
 7 priority over any secured or unsecured claim on income,  
 8 except for claims for federal, state, and local taxes.  
 9 (O) That the income payor must notify the court if the obligor:  
 10 (i) ceases employment with; or  
 11 (ii) no longer receives income from;  
 12 the income payor not later than ten (10) days after the date the  
 13 obligor's employment or income ceases and provide the  
 14 obligor's last known address and the name and address of the  
 15 obligor's new income payor, if known, to the court.  
 16 (d) At a hearing under this section, the court shall grant the petition  
 17 to lift the stay of implementation of the income withholding order if the  
 18 obligor has failed to comply with the provisions of the support order,  
 19 unless the court finds that the conditions under section 0.5(c)(2) of this  
 20 chapter have been met.  
 21 (e) If the obligor files a petition to lift the stay of implementation of  
 22 the income withholding order:  
 23 (1) a hearing is not required; and  
 24 (2) the court shall grant the petition.  
 25 (f) If the court grants the petition to lift the stay of implementation  
 26 of the income withholding order, the court shall:  
 27 (1) implement the income withholding order; and  
 28 (2) send the income withholding order to the obligor's income  
 29 payor.  
 30 SECTION 42. IC 31-16-15-7.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.80-2010,  
 31 SECTION 41, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 32 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 7.5. (a) An income payor that is required to  
 33 withhold income under this chapter shall:  
 34 (1) forward income withheld for the payment of current or past  
 35 due child support as directed by an income withholding order to  
 36 the state central collection unit at the time that an obligor is paid;  
 37 (2) include a statement that identifies the:  
 38 (A) cause number for each obligee;  
 39 (B) Indiana support enforcement tracking system (ISETS) **or**  
 40 **its successor statewide automated support enforcement**  
 41 **system** case number for each obligee;  
 42 (C) name of each obligor and the obligor's Social Security

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- 1 number;
- 2 (D) name of each obligee with the amount of the withheld
- 3 income forwarded by the income payor; and
- 4 (E) date on which the amount was withheld from the obligor's
- 5 income; and
- 6 (3) begin withholding income not later than the first pay date after
- 7 fourteen (14) days following the date the order for income
- 8 withholding is received by the income payor.
- 9 (b) An income payor may retain, in addition to the amount of
- 10 income forwarded to the state central collection unit, a fee of not more
- 11 than two dollars (\$2) each time the income payor forwards income to
- 12 the state central collection unit. If an income payor retains a fee under
- 13 this subsection, the income payor shall reduce the amount of income
- 14 withheld for the payment of current and past due child support, if
- 15 necessary to avoid exceeding the maximum amount permitted to be
- 16 withheld under 15 U.S.C. 1673(b).

17 SECTION 43. IC 31-16-17-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.3-2008,  
 18 SECTION 236, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 19 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 2. An action for support of a parent  
 20 may be instituted against a child for violation of the duty to support a  
 21 parent as required by section 1 of this chapter by filing a verified  
 22 complaint in a circuit or superior court of the county of the residence  
 23 of either parent. The plaintiff or plaintiffs must be:

- 24 (1) the parent or parents; or
- 25 (2) the:
  - 26 (A) prosecuting attorney of the judicial circuit;
  - 27 (B) ~~county director of the county office of family and children~~
  - 28 ~~of the county local office of the county~~ in which the parent
  - 29 resides;
  - 30 (C) township trustee of the township in which the parent
  - 31 resides; or
  - 32 (D) division of family resources;
  - 33 on behalf of the parent.

34 SECTION 44. IC 31-16-17-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
 35 SECTION 240, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 36 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 4. (a) Any of the following may  
 37 prosecute a civil action for support of a parent:

- 38 (1) The parent.
- 39 (2) The township trustee.
- 40 (3) The ~~county director of the county office of family and~~
- 41 ~~children~~ **department.**
- 42 (4) The director of the division of family resources.

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- 1 (5) The prosecuting attorney.  
 2 (b) Costs may not be taxed against:  
 3 (1) the prosecuting attorney;  
 4 (2) the ~~county director of the county office of family and children;~~  
 5 **department;**  
 6 (3) the township trustee; or  
 7 (4) the director of the division of family resources.
- 8 SECTION 45. IC 31-19-2-7.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.234-2005,  
 9 SECTION 92, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 10 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 7.5. (a) This section does not apply to a petitioner  
 11 for adoption who provides the licensed child placing agency or ~~county~~  
 12 ~~office of family and children~~ **the local office** with the results of a  
 13 criminal history check conducted:  
 14 (1) in accordance with IC 31-9-2-22.5; and  
 15 (2) not more than one (1) year before the date on which the  
 16 petition is filed.  
 17 (b) Every petitioner for adoption shall submit the necessary  
 18 information, forms, or consents for:  
 19 (1) a licensed child placing agency; or  
 20 (2) the ~~county office of family and children;~~ **local office;**  
 21 that conducts the inspection and investigation required for adoption of  
 22 a child under IC 31-19-8-5 to conduct a criminal history check (as  
 23 defined in IC 31-9-2-22.5) of the petitioner as part of its investigation.  
 24 (c) The petitioner for adoption shall pay the fees and other costs of  
 25 the criminal history check required under this section.
- 26 SECTION 46. IC 31-19-2-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.162-2011,  
 27 SECTION 13, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 28 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 12. As soon as a petition for adoption is found to  
 29 be in proper form, the clerk of the court shall forward one (1) copy of  
 30 the petition for adoption to a licensed child placing agency as described  
 31 in ~~IC 31-19-7-1;~~ **IC 31-9-2-17.5**, with preference to be given to the  
 32 agency, if any, sponsoring the adoption, as shown by the petition for  
 33 adoption.
- 34 SECTION 47. IC 31-19-2.5-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.1-2007,  
 35 SECTION 195, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 36 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 3. (a) Except as provided in section  
 37 4 of this chapter, notice must be given to a:  
 38 (1) person whose consent to adoption is required under  
 39 IC 31-19-9-1; and  
 40 (2) putative father who is entitled to notice under IC 31-19-4.  
 41 (b) If the parent-child relationship has been terminated under  
 42 IC 31-35 (or IC 31-6-5 before its repeal), notice of the pendency of the

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1 adoption proceedings shall be given to the:

2 (1) licensed child placing agency; or

3 (2) ~~county office of family and children;~~ **local office;**

4 of which the child is a ward.

5 SECTION 48. IC 31-19-7-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.138-2007,  
6 SECTION 37, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
7 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 1. (a) A child may not be placed in a proposed  
8 adoptive home without the prior written approval of a licensed child  
9 placing agency or ~~county office of family and children~~ **the local office**  
10 approved for that purpose by the department.

11 (b) Except as provided in subsection (d), before giving prior written  
12 approval for placement in a proposed adoptive home of a child, a  
13 licensed child placing agency or the department of child services shall  
14 conduct a criminal history check (as defined in IC 31-9-2-22.5)  
15 concerning the proposed adoptive parent and any other person who is  
16 currently residing in the proposed adoptive home.

17 (c) The prospective adoptive parent shall pay the fees and other  
18 costs of the criminal history check required under this section.

19 (d) A licensed child placing agency or the department of child  
20 services is not required to conduct a criminal history check (as defined  
21 in IC 31-9-2-22.5) if a prospective adoptive parent provides the  
22 licensed child placing agency or ~~county office of family and children~~  
23 **the local office** with the results of a criminal history check conducted:

24 (1) in accordance with IC 31-9-2-22.5; and

25 (2) not more than one (1) year before the date on which the  
26 licensed child placing agency or ~~county office of family and~~  
27 ~~children~~ **the local office** provides written approval for the  
28 placement.

29 SECTION 49. IC 31-19-7-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
30 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 2. Whenever the  
31 written approval for placement of a child in a proposed adoptive home  
32 is obtained from a licensed child placing agency, the consent of the  
33 ~~county office of family and children~~ **department** is not required unless  
34 the child is a ward of the ~~county office of family and children;~~  
35 **department.**

36 SECTION 50. IC 31-19-8-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.131-2009,  
37 SECTION 15, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
38 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 1. An adoption may be granted in Indiana only  
39 after:

40 (1) the court has heard the evidence; and

41 (2) except as provided in section 2(c) of this chapter, a period of  
42 supervision, as described in section 2 of this chapter, by:

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- 1 (A) a licensed child placing agency for a child who has not
- 2 been adjudicated to be a child in need of services; or
- 3 (B) **the department**, if the child is the subject of an open child
- 4 in need of services action. ~~the county office of family and~~
- 5 ~~children approved for that purpose by the department.~~

6 SECTION 51. IC 31-19-8-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.131-2009,  
 7 SECTION 16, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 8 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 3. (a) The department shall annually compile a list  
 9 of:

- 10 (1) licensed child placing agencies; and
- 11 (2) ~~county offices of family and children;~~ **the local offices;**
- 12 that conduct the inspection and supervision required for adoption of a
- 13 child by IC 31-19-7-1 and section 1 of this chapter.

14 (b) The list of licensed child placing agencies and **county local**  
 15 ~~offices of family and children~~ must include a description of the  
 16 following:

- 17 (1) Fees charged by each agency and ~~county office of family and~~
- 18 ~~children.~~ **the department.**
- 19 (2) Geographic area served by each agency and **county local**
- 20 ~~office.~~ ~~of family and children.~~
- 21 (3) Approximate waiting period for the inspection or supervision
- 22 by each licensed child placing agency and **county local** office. ~~of~~
- 23 ~~family and children.~~
- 24 (4) Other relevant information regarding the inspection and
- 25 supervision provided by a licensed child placing agency or a
- 26 **county local** office ~~of family and children~~ under IC 31-19-7-1 and
- 27 section 1 of this chapter.

28 (c) The department shall do the following:

- 29 (1) Maintain in its office or on its **Internet** web site copies of the
- 30 list compiled under this section for distribution to individuals who
- 31 request a copy.
- 32 (2) Provide each **county local** office ~~of family and children~~ with
- 33 sufficient copies of the list prepared under this section for
- 34 distribution to individuals who request a copy.
- 35 (3) Provide a copy of the list to each public library organized
- 36 under IC 36-12.

37 (d) The department and each:

- 38 (1) **county local** office; ~~of family and children;~~ and
- 39 (2) public library organized under IC 36-12;
- 40 shall make the list compiled under this section available for public
- 41 inspection.

42 SECTION 52. IC 31-19-8-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.131-2009,

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1 SECTION 18, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
2 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 5. (a) Except as provided in subsection (c), not  
3 more than sixty (60) days from the date of reference of a petition for  
4 adoption to each appropriate agency:

5 (1) each licensed child placing agency, for a child who is not  
6 adjudicated to be a child in need of services; or

7 (2) if the child is the subject of an open child in need of services  
8 action, each **county local** office; ~~of family and children;~~

9 shall submit to the court a written report of the investigation and  
10 recommendation as to the advisability of the adoption.

11 (b) The report and recommendation:

12 (1) shall be filed with the adoption proceedings; and

13 (2) become a part of the proceedings.

14 (c) A court hearing a petition for adoption of a child may waive the  
15 report required under subsection (a) if one (1) of the petitioners is a  
16 stepparent or grandparent of the child and the court waives the period  
17 of supervision.

18 (d) If the court waives the reports required under subsection (a), the  
19 court shall require the licensed child placing agency for a child who is  
20 not adjudicated to be a child in need of services or, if the child is the  
21 subject of an open child in need of services action, each **county local**  
22 office ~~of family and children~~ to:

23 (1) ensure a criminal history check is conducted under  
24 IC 31-19-2-7.5; and

25 (2) report to the court the results of the criminal history check.

26 SECTION 53. IC 31-19-8-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.131-2009,  
27 SECTION 21, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
28 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 8. The report and recommendation of the licensed  
29 child placing agency or **county local** office are not binding on the court  
30 but are advisory only.

31 SECTION 54. IC 31-19-9-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.58-2009,  
32 SECTION 22, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
33 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 1. (a) Except as otherwise provided in this  
34 chapter, a petition to adopt a child who is less than eighteen (18) years  
35 of age may be granted only if written consent to adoption has been  
36 executed by the following:

37 (1) Each living parent of a child born in wedlock, including a man  
38 who is presumed to be the child's biological father under  
39 IC 31-14-7-1(1) if the man is the biological or adoptive parent of  
40 the child.

41 (2) The mother of a child born out of wedlock and the father of a  
42 child whose paternity has been established by:

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- 1 (A) a court proceeding other than the adoption proceeding,
- 2 except as provided in IC 31-14-20-2; or
- 3 (B) a paternity affidavit executed under IC 16-37-2-2.1;
- 4 unless the putative father gives implied consent to the adoption
- 5 under section 15 of this chapter.
- 6 (3) Each person, agency, or ~~county local office of family and~~
- 7 ~~children~~ having lawful custody of the child whose adoption is
- 8 being sought.
- 9 (4) The court having jurisdiction of the custody of the child if the
- 10 legal guardian or custodian of the person of the child is not
- 11 empowered to consent to the adoption.
- 12 (5) The child to be adopted if the child is more than fourteen (14)
- 13 years of age.
- 14 (6) The spouse of the child to be adopted if the child is married.
- 15 (b) A parent who is less than eighteen (18) years of age may consent
- 16 to an adoption without the concurrence of:
- 17 (1) the individual's parent or parents; or
- 18 (2) the guardian of the individual's person;
- 19 unless the court, in the court's discretion, determines that it is in the
- 20 best interest of the child to be adopted to require the concurrence.
- 21 SECTION 55. IC 31-19-9-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.162-2011,
- 22 SECTION 15, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 23 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 2. (a) The consent to adoption may be executed at
- 24 any time after the birth of the child, either in the presence of:
- 25 (1) the court;
- 26 (2) a notary public or other person authorized to take
- 27 acknowledgments; or
- 28 (3) an authorized agent of:
- 29 (A) the department; **or**
- 30 ~~(B) a county office of family and children; or~~
- 31 ~~(C) (B) a licensed child placing agency.~~
- 32 (b) The child's mother may not execute a consent to adoption before
- 33 the birth of the child.
- 34 (c) The child's father may execute a consent to adoption before the
- 35 birth of the child if the consent to adoption:
- 36 (1) is in writing;
- 37 (2) is signed by the child's father in the presence of a notary
- 38 public; and
- 39 (3) contains an acknowledgment that:
- 40 (A) the consent to adoption is irrevocable; and
- 41 (B) the child's father will not receive notice of the adoption
- 42 proceedings.

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1 (d) A child's father who consents to the adoption of the child under  
2 subsection (c) may not challenge or contest the child's adoption.

3 (e) Except as provided in subsection (f) or (g), a person who  
4 executes a written consent to the adoption of a child may not execute  
5 a second or subsequent written consent to have another person adopt  
6 the child unless one (1) or more of the following apply:

7 (1) Each original petitioner provides a written statement that the  
8 petitioner is not adopting the child.

9 (2) The person consenting to the adoption has been permitted to  
10 withdraw the first consent to adoption under IC 31-19-10.

11 (3) The court dismisses the petition for adoption filed by the  
12 original petitioner or petitioners for adoption based upon a  
13 showing, by clear and convincing evidence, that it is not in the  
14 best interests of the child that the petition for adoption be granted.

15 (4) The court denies the petition to adopt the child filed by the  
16 original petitioner or petitioners for adoption.

17 (f) The department may execute more than one (1) written consent  
18 to the adoption of a child if the department determines that the  
19 execution of more than one (1) written consent is in the best interests  
20 of the child.

21 (g) The parents of a child who is a ward of the department may  
22 execute a second or subsequent consent if:

23 (1) the court with jurisdiction over the child in need of services  
24 determines that adoption by the person to whom consents were  
25 originally signed is not in the child's best interest; or

26 (2) if the child's placement with the person who has petitioned or  
27 intends to petition to adopt the child is disrupted.

28 SECTION 56. IC 31-19-11-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.162-2011,  
29 SECTION 16, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
30 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 1. (a) Whenever the court has heard the evidence  
31 and finds that:

32 (1) the adoption requested is in the best interest of the child;

33 (2) the petitioner or petitioners for adoption are of sufficient  
34 ability to rear the child and furnish suitable support and  
35 education;

36 (3) the report of the investigation and recommendation under  
37 IC 31-19-8-5 has been filed;

38 (4) the attorney or agency arranging an adoption has filed with the  
39 court an affidavit prepared by the state department of health under  
40 IC 31-19-5-16 indicating whether a man is entitled to notice of the  
41 adoption because the man has registered with the putative father  
42 registry in accordance with IC 31-19-5;

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- 1 (5) proper notice arising under subdivision (4), if notice is
- 2 necessary, of the adoption has been given;
- 3 (6) the attorney or agency has filed with the court an affidavit
- 4 prepared by the state department of health under:
  - 5 (A) IC 31-19-6 indicating whether a record of a paternity
  - 6 determination; or
  - 7 (B) IC 16-37-2-2(g) indicating whether a paternity affidavit
  - 8 executed under IC 16-37-2-2.1;
  - 9 has been filed in relation to the child;
- 10 (7) proper consent, if consent is necessary, to the adoption has
- 11 been given;
- 12 (8) the petitioner for adoption is not prohibited from adopting the
- 13 child as the result of an inappropriate criminal history described
- 14 in subsection (c) or (d); and
- 15 (9) the person, licensed child placing agency, or **county local**
- 16 **office of family and children** that has placed the child for adoption
- 17 has provided the documents and other information required under
- 18 IC 31-19-17 to the prospective adoptive parents;
- 19 the court shall grant the petition for adoption and enter an adoption
- 20 decree.
- 21 (b) A court may not grant an adoption unless the state department
- 22 of health's affidavit under IC 31-19-5-16 is filed with the court as
- 23 provided under subsection (a)(4).
- 24 (c) A juvenile adjudication for an act listed in subdivisions (1)
- 25 through ~~(20)~~ **(21)** that would be a felony if committed by an adult, a
- 26 conviction of a misdemeanor related to the health and safety of a child,
- 27 or a conviction of a felony not listed in subdivisions (1) through ~~(20)~~
- 28 **(21)** by a petitioner for adoption is a permissible basis for the court to
- 29 deny the petition for adoption. In addition, the court may not grant an
- 30 adoption if a petitioner for adoption has been convicted of any of the
- 31 felonies described as follows:
  - 32 (1) Murder (IC 35-42-1-1).
  - 33 (2) Causing suicide (IC 35-42-1-2).
  - 34 (3) Assisting suicide (IC 35-42-1-2.5).
  - 35 (4) Voluntary manslaughter (IC 35-42-1-3).
  - 36 (5) Reckless homicide (IC 35-42-1-5).
  - 37 (6) Battery as a felony (IC 35-42-2-1).
  - 38 (7) Domestic battery (IC 35-42-2-1.3).
  - 39 (8) Aggravated battery (IC 35-42-2-1.5).
  - 40 (9) Kidnapping (IC 35-42-3-2).
  - 41 (10) Criminal confinement (IC 35-42-3-3).
  - 42 (11) A felony sex offense under IC 35-42-4.

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- 1 (12) Carjacking (IC 35-42-5-2).
- 2 (13) Arson (IC 35-43-1-1).
- 3 (14) Incest (IC 35-46-1-3).
- 4 (15) Neglect of a dependent (IC 35-46-1-4(a)(1) and
- 5 IC 35-46-1-4(a)(2)).
- 6 (16) Child selling (IC 35-46-1-4(d)).
- 7 (17) A felony involving a weapon under IC 35-47 or IC 35-47.5.
- 8 (18) A felony relating to controlled substances under IC 35-48-4.
- 9 (19) An offense relating to material or a performance that is
- 10 harmful to minors or obscene under IC 35-49-3.

11 **(20) A felony under IC 9-30-5.**  
 12 ~~(20)~~ **(21)** A felony under the laws of another jurisdiction,  
 13 including a military court, that is substantially equivalent to any  
 14 of the offenses listed in subdivisions (1) through ~~(19)~~: **(20)**.

15 However, the court is not prohibited from granting an adoption based  
 16 upon a felony conviction under subdivision (6), (10), (12), (13), (17),  
 17 ~~or~~ (18), ~~or~~ **(20)** or its equivalent under subdivision ~~(20)~~; **(21)**, if the  
 18 date of the conviction did not occur within the immediately preceding  
 19 five (5) year period.

20 (d) A court may not grant an adoption if the petitioner is a sex or  
 21 violent offender (as defined in IC 11-8-8-5) or a sexually violent  
 22 predator (as defined in IC 35-38-1-7.5).

23 SECTION 57. IC 31-19-16-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 24 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 2. A court may grant  
 25 postadoption contact privileges if:

- 26 (1) the court determines that the best interests of the child would
- 27 be served by granting postadoption contact privileges;
- 28 (2) the child is at least two (2) years of age and the court finds that
- 29 there is a significant emotional attachment between the child and
- 30 the birth parent;
- 31 (3) each adoptive parent consents to the granting of postadoption
- 32 contact privileges;
- 33 (4) the adoptive parents and the birth parents:
- 34 (A) execute a postadoption contact agreement; and
- 35 (B) file the agreement with the court;
- 36 (5) the licensed child placing agency sponsoring the adoption and
- 37 the child's court appointed special advocate or guardian ad litem
- 38 appointed under IC 31-32-3 recommends to the court the
- 39 postadoption contact agreement, or if there is no licensed child
- 40 placing agency sponsoring the adoption, the **county local** office
- 41 ~~of family and children~~ or other agency that prepared an adoption
- 42 report under IC 31-19-8-5 is informed of the contents of the

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- 1 postadoption contact agreement and comments on the agreement
- 2 in the agency's report to the court;
- 3 (6) consent to postadoption contact is obtained from the child if
- 4 the child is at least twelve (12) years of age; and
- 5 (7) the postadoption contact agreement is approved by the court.

6 SECTION 58. IC 31-19-16.5-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 7 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 2. In making its  
 8 determination under section 1 of this chapter, the court shall consider  
 9 any relevant evidence, including the following:

- 10 (1) A recommendation made by a licensed child placing agency
- 11 sponsoring the adoption.
- 12 (2) A recommendation made by the adopted child's court
- 13 appointed special advocate or guardian ad litem.
- 14 (3) A recommendation made by the ~~county local~~ office of family
- 15 ~~and children~~ or other agency that prepared a report of its
- 16 investigation and its recommendation as to the advisability of the
- 17 adoption under IC 31-19-8-5.
- 18 (4) Wishes expressed by the adopted child or adoptive parents.

19 SECTION 59. IC 31-19-17-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.162-2011,  
 20 SECTION 17, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 21 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 2. A person, a licensed child placing agency, or a  
 22 ~~county local~~ office of family and children placing a child for adoption  
 23 shall prepare or cause to be prepared a report summarizing the  
 24 available medical, psychological, and educational records of the person  
 25 or agency concerning the birth parents. The person, agency, or ~~county~~  
 26 ~~local~~ office shall exclude from this report information that would  
 27 identify the birth parents unless the prospective adoptive parents know  
 28 the identity of the birth parents. The person, agency, or ~~county local~~  
 29 office shall give the report to:

- 30 (1) the prospective adoptive parents:
- 31 (A) at the time the home study or evaluation concerning the
- 32 suitability of the proposed home for the child is commenced;
- 33 (B) as soon as practical after the prospective adoptive parents
- 34 are matched with the birth mother; or
- 35 (C) with the consent of the prospective adoptive parents, not
- 36 more than thirty (30) days after the child is placed with the
- 37 prospective adoptive parents; and
- 38 (2) upon request and without information that would identify the
- 39 birth parents unless an adoptee already knows the identity of the
- 40 birth parents, an adoptee who:
- 41 (A) is at least twenty-one (21) years of age; and
- 42 (B) provides proof of identification.

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1 SECTION 60. IC 31-19-17-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.162-2011,  
 2 SECTION 18, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 3 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 3. The person, licensed child placing agency, or  
 4 **county local** office shall:

5 (1) exclude information that would identify the birth parents  
 6 unless the prospective adoptive parent or the adoptive parent  
 7 under subdivision (2)(A) or an adoptee under subdivision (2)(B)  
 8 who requests the information knows the identity of the birth  
 9 parents; and

10 (2) release all available social, medical, psychological, and  
 11 educational records concerning the child to:

12 (A) the prospective adoptive parent or the adoptive parent; and

13 (B) upon request, an adoptee who:

14 (i) is at least twenty-one (21) years of age; and

15 (ii) provides proof of identification.

16 SECTION 61. IC 31-19-17-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.162-2011,  
 17 SECTION 19, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 18 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 4. The person, licensed child placing agency, or  
 19 **county local** office shall provide:

20 (1) the prospective adoptive parent or the adoptive parent; and

21 (2) upon request, an adoptee who:

22 (A) is at least twenty-one (21) years of age; and

23 (B) provides proof of identification;

24 with a summary of other existing social, medical, psychological, and  
 25 educational records concerning the child of which the person, agency,  
 26 or **county local** office has knowledge but does not have possession. If  
 27 requested by a prospective adoptive parent, an adoptive parent, or an  
 28 adoptee, the person, agency, or **county local** office shall attempt to  
 29 provide the prospective adoptive parent, the adoptive parent, or the  
 30 adoptee with a copy of any social, medical, psychological, or  
 31 educational record that is not in the possession of the person, agency,  
 32 or **county local** office, after identifying information has been excluded.

33 SECTION 62. IC 31-19-17-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.1-2010,  
 34 SECTION 125, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 35 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 5. (a) This section applies to an  
 36 adoption that is granted before July 1, 1993.

37 (b) Upon the request of an adoptee who:

38 (1) is at least twenty-one (21) years of age; and

39 (2) provides proof of identification;

40 a person, a licensed child placing agency, or a **county local** office shall  
 41 provide to the adoptee available information of social, medical,  
 42 psychological, and educational records and reports concerning the

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1 adoptee. The person, licensed child placing agency, or **county local**  
 2 office shall exclude from the records information that would identify  
 3 the birth parents unless an adoptee already knows the identity of the  
 4 birth parents.

5 SECTION 63. IC 31-19-19-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.191-2011,  
 6 SECTION 20, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 7 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 2. (a) All files and records pertaining to the  
 8 adoption proceedings in:

- 9 (1) the **county local** office; ~~of family and children;~~  
 10 (2) the department; or  
 11 (3) any of the licensed child placing agencies;

12 are confidential and open to inspection only as provided in  
 13 IC 31-19-13-2(2), IC 31-19-17, this chapter, or IC 31-19-20 through  
 14 IC 31-19-25.5.

15 (b) The files and records described in subsection (a), including  
 16 investigation records under IC 31-19-8-5 (or IC 31-3-1-4 before its  
 17 repeal):

- 18 (1) are open to the inspection of the court hearing the petition for  
 19 adoption; and  
 20 (2) on order of the court, may be:  
 21 (A) introduced into evidence; and  
 22 (B) made a part of the record;  
 23 in the adoption proceeding.

24 SECTION 64. IC 31-19-19-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.191-2011,  
 25 SECTION 21, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 26 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 4. All papers, records, and information pertaining  
 27 to the adoption, whether part of:

- 28 (1) the permanent record of the court; or  
 29 (2) a file in:

- 30 (A) the division of vital records;  
 31 (B) the department or **county local** office; ~~of family and~~  
 32 ~~children;~~  
 33 (C) a licensed child placing agency; or  
 34 (D) a professional health care provider (as defined in  
 35 IC 34-6-2-117);

36 are confidential and may be disclosed only in accordance with  
 37 IC 31-19-17, this chapter, ~~or~~ or IC 31-19-20 through IC 31-19-25.5.

38 SECTION 65. IC 31-19-20-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 39 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 2. (a) Whenever the  
 40 state registrar receives an inquiry for medical history information from  
 41 an adoptee or adoptive parent and the state registrar reasonably  
 42 believes that the medical history information available under section 1

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1 of this chapter is incomplete, the state registrar shall request further  
2 medical history information concerning the adoptee from:

- 3 (1) the hospital where the adoptee was born; and  
4 (2) the:  
5 (A) licensed child placing agency;  
6 (B) **county local** office; ~~of family and children~~; and  
7 (C) attorney;  
8 that arranged the adoptee's adoptive placement.

9 (b) A hospital, a licensed child placing agency, a **county local**  
10 office, ~~of family and children~~, or an attorney that receives a request for  
11 medical information under subsection (a) shall release medical history  
12 information concerning the adoptee to the state registrar.

13 (c) The state registrar shall release any additional medical history  
14 information received under subsection (b) to the adoptee or adoptive  
15 parent.

16 SECTION 66. IC 31-19-21-7, AS ADDED BY P.L.191-2011,  
17 SECTION 26, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
18 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 7. The following persons shall send a copy of a  
19 consent for the release of identifying information and any signed  
20 writing that withdraws or modifies a consent for the release of  
21 identifying information received by the person to the state registrar:

- 22 (1) The department.  
23 (2) A **county local** office. ~~of family and children~~.  
24 (3) A licensed child placing agency.  
25 (4) A professional health care provider (as defined in  
26 IC 34-6-2-117).  
27 (5) An attorney.  
28 (6) A court.

29 SECTION 67. IC 31-19-22-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.191-2011,  
30 SECTION 28, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
31 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 2. (a) Except as provided in section 3 of this  
32 chapter and subject to subsection (b) and section 12 of this chapter, the  
33 state registrar, the department, a **county local** office, ~~of family and~~  
34 ~~children~~, a licensed child placing agency, a professional health care  
35 provider, an attorney, and a court shall release identifying information  
36 in the person's possession only if:

- 37 (1) the information is requested by:  
38 (A) an adoptee who is an adult;  
39 (B) a birth parent;  
40 (C) an adoptive parent;  
41 (D) the spouse or relative of a deceased adoptee; or  
42 (E) the spouse or relative of a deceased birth parent; and



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1 (2) the following individuals have submitted a written consent  
 2 under IC 31-19-21 (or IC 31-3-4-27 before its repeal) to the state  
 3 registrar or the person from whom the identifying information is  
 4 requested that allows the release of identifying information to the  
 5 individual requesting the information:

6 (A) The adult adoptee.

7 (B) A birth parent.

8 (b) Except as provided under subsection (c), if an individual  
 9 requests the release of identifying information under subsection (a) for  
 10 an adoptee who is less than twenty-one (21) years of age, the state  
 11 registrar, the department, a ~~county local office, of family and children;~~  
 12 a licensed child placing agency, a professional health care provider, an  
 13 attorney, and a court may not release identifying information under this  
 14 section unless the adoptee's adoptive parent has submitted a written  
 15 consent for the release of identifying information.

16 (c) The state registrar, the department, a ~~county local office, of~~  
 17 ~~family and children;~~ a licensed child placing agency, a professional  
 18 health care provider, an attorney, and a court may not release  
 19 identifying information under this chapter if the request for the release  
 20 of identifying information involves an adoptee to whom both of the  
 21 following apply:

22 (1) The adoptee is less than twenty-one (21) years of age.

23 (2) The adoptee's name is on the list provided to the state  
 24 department of health under IC 31-25-2-22.

25 (d) A licensed child placing agency, a professional health care  
 26 provider, an attorney, and a court:

27 (1) may request that the state department of health search the list  
 28 provided under IC 31-25-2-22 to determine whether an adoptee's  
 29 name is on the list; and

30 (2) shall, at the time of the request, provide:

31 (A) the name of the adoptee at the time parental rights were  
 32 terminated; and

33 (B) an affidavit under penalty of perjury affirming that the  
 34 licensed child placing agency, professional health care  
 35 provider, attorney, or court is seeking information regarding  
 36 the adoptee for the purpose of providing identifying  
 37 information under this chapter.

38 (e) Not later than five (5) days after the state department of health  
 39 receives a request and an affidavit under subsection (d), the state  
 40 department of health shall submit an affidavit to the child placing  
 41 agency, professional health care provider, attorney, or court verifying  
 42 whether the adoptee's name is on the list provided to the state

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1 department of health under IC 31-25-2-22.

2 SECTION 68. IC 31-19-22-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.191-2011,  
3 SECTION 32, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
4 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 7. An individual listed in section 2(a)(1) of this  
5 chapter may contact the:

- 6 (1) attorney;  
7 (2) licensed child placing agency; or  
8 (3) ~~county local office; of family and children;~~

9 who arranged the adoption to request that the attorney, agency, or  
10 ~~county local office of family and children~~ contact the adoptee, birth  
11 parent, or adoptive parent whose consent is necessary before  
12 identifying information may be released under this chapter.

13 SECTION 69. IC 31-19-22-7.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.191-2011,  
14 SECTION 33, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
15 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 7.5. An attorney, a licensed child placing agency,  
16 and a ~~county local office of family and children~~ may not contact an  
17 adoptee, a birth parent, or an adoptive parent or disclose identifying  
18 information upon a request under section 7 of this chapter if the request  
19 involves an adoptee to whom both of the following apply:

- 20 (1) The adoptee is less than twenty-one (21) years of age.  
21 (2) The adoptee's name is on the list provided to the state  
22 department of health under IC 31-25-2-22.

23 SECTION 70. IC 31-19-22-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.191-2011,  
24 SECTION 34, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
25 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 8. (a) Except as provided in section 7.5 of this  
26 chapter and subject to section 12 of this chapter, an attorney, a licensed  
27 child placing agency, or a ~~county local office of family and children~~  
28 who contacts an adoptee, a birth parent, or an adoptive parent upon a  
29 request under section 7 of this chapter may not disclose identifying  
30 information unless the:

- 31 (1) adoptee who:  
32 (A) is at least twenty-one (21) years of age gives written  
33 consent; or  
34 (B) is less than twenty-one (21) years of age has the written  
35 consent of the adoptee's adoptive parents; and  
36 (2) birth parent gives written consent;

37 to the release of identifying information by the attorney, licensed child  
38 placing agency, or ~~county local office. of family and children.~~

39 (b) If:

- 40 (1) the:  
41 (A) adoptee who is at least twenty-one (21) years of age; or  
42 (B) adoptive parent of an adoptee who is less than twenty-one

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1 (21) years of age; and  
 2 (2) the birth parent;  
 3 consent to the release of identifying information but do not provide the  
 4 consent in writing, the attorney, licensed child placing agency, or  
 5 ~~county local office of family and children~~ may inform the individual  
 6 requesting the identifying information regarding the fact that an  
 7 adoptee, birth parent, or adoptive parent has consented to the release  
 8 of identifying information. The attorney, licensed child placing agency,  
 9 or ~~county local office of family and children~~ may inquire as to whether  
 10 the adoptee, birth parent, or adoptive parent, whose consent is still  
 11 needed before identifying information may be released, is interested in  
 12 participating in the adoption registry under IC 31-19-18 through  
 13 IC 31-19-21, this chapter, IC 31-19-23 through IC 31-19-24, and  
 14 IC 31-19-25.5.

15 SECTION 71. IC 31-19-22-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.191-2011,  
 16 SECTION 36, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 17 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 11. (a) An attorney, a licensed child placing  
 18 agency, or a ~~county local office of family and children~~ may charge a  
 19 reasonable fee for services performed or actual expenses incurred  
 20 under section 8 of this chapter.

21 (b) The following persons may charge a reasonable fee for actual  
 22 expenses incurred in complying with this chapter and IC 31-19-23:

- 23 (1) A licensed child placing agency.
- 24 (2) The court.
- 25 (3) The department.
- 26 (4) A ~~county local office of family and children~~.
- 27 (5) A professional health care provider.
- 28 (6) An attorney.
- 29 (7) The state department of health.

30 SECTION 72. IC 31-19-23-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
 31 SECTION 258, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 32 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 1. The following persons shall  
 33 release nonidentifying information concerning an adoption in the  
 34 entity's possession to any person described in IC 31-19-18-2(a) upon  
 35 request:

- 36 (1) The state registrar.
- 37 (2) The department.
- 38 (3) A ~~county local office of family and children~~.
- 39 (4) A licensed child placing agency.
- 40 (5) A professional health care provider (as defined in  
 41 IC 34-6-2-117).
- 42 (6) The attorney who arranged the adoption.



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1 (7) A court.  
2 SECTION 73. IC 31-19-23-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
3 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 2. (a) This section  
4 applies to an adopted child if:  
5 (1) the ~~county local~~ office; ~~of family and children~~; or  
6 (2) the prosecuting attorney;  
7 has filed a petition alleging that the child is a child in need of services  
8 under or IC 31-34-1.  
9 (b) The:  
10 (1) ~~county local~~ office; ~~of family and children~~;  
11 (2) child's guardian ad litem or court appointed special advocate;  
12 and  
13 (3) juvenile court;  
14 may have access to nonidentifying adoption information regarding the  
15 child.  
16 SECTION 74. IC 31-19-24-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.191-2011,  
17 SECTION 40, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
18 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 3. Whenever the court appoints a confidential  
19 intermediary under section 2(2) of this chapter, the court shall do the  
20 following:  
21 (1) Consider:  
22 (A) the highly emotional and personal issues relating to  
23 adoption;  
24 (B) the privacy rights of both birth parents, adoptees, and  
25 pre-adoptive siblings;  
26 (C) the reasons the medical, identifying, or nonidentifying  
27 information is being sought under section 1 of this chapter;  
28 and  
29 (D) any irreparable harm to a birth parent, an adoptee, or a  
30 pre-adoptive sibling that may arise if appropriate consideration  
31 is not given to the issues described in clauses (A) through (C).  
32 (2) Provide the confidential intermediary with an order  
33 authorizing the confidential intermediary to search certain records  
34 that may include:  
35 (A) the division of public health statistics;  
36 (B) the department or ~~county local~~ office; ~~of family and~~  
37 ~~children~~;  
38 (C) any licensed child placing agency; or  
39 (D) any professional health care provider (as defined in  
40 IC 34-6-2-117).  
41 An order under this subdivision must specify the information to  
42 be sought by the confidential intermediary.

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1 (3) Specify the direct contact, if any, that a confidential  
 2 intermediary may have with any person from whom the medical,  
 3 identifying, or nonidentifying information is being sought, such  
 4 as providing that the confidential intermediary may only inform  
 5 the person of the existence of the adoption history program  
 6 administered by the state registrar under IC 31-19-18 through  
 7 IC 31-19-23, this chapter, IC 31-19-25, and IC 31-19-25.5.

8 (4) Specify the limitations, if any, that the court considers  
 9 necessary to prevent the confidential intermediary's search under  
 10 this chapter from resulting in harm to a birth parent, an adoptee,  
 11 or a pre-adoptive sibling.

12 (5) Require the confidential intermediary to affirm under oath that  
 13 the confidential intermediary agrees to act in good faith and  
 14 perform its responsibilities in accordance with sections 2 through  
 15 11 of this chapter.

16 (6) Instruct the confidential intermediary to act as quickly as  
 17 possible.

18 SECTION 75. IC 31-19-25-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.191-2011,  
 19 SECTION 41, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 20 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 2. (a) The following may request the release of  
 21 identifying information:

- 22 (1) An adoptee who is an adult.
- 23 (2) A birth parent.
- 24 (3) An adoptive parent.
- 25 (4) The spouse or relative of a deceased adoptee.
- 26 (5) The spouse or relative of a deceased birth parent.

27 (b) Except as provided in sections 3, 15, and 17 of this chapter and  
 28 subject to sections 2.5 and 21 of this chapter, upon a request for the  
 29 release of identifying information under subsection (a):

- 30 (1) the state registrar;
- 31 (2) the department;
- 32 (3) a ~~county local office; of family and children;~~
- 33 (4) a licensed child placing agency;
- 34 (5) a professional health care provider;
- 35 (6) the attorney who arranged the adoption; and
- 36 (7) a court;

37 shall release identifying information in the person's possession to the  
 38 individual requesting the release of identifying information only if the  
 39 adoptee has submitted a written consent under IC 31-19-21 to the state  
 40 registrar or the person from whom the release of identifying  
 41 information is requested for release of identifying information to the  
 42 individual requesting the release of identifying information.



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1 SECTION 76. IC 31-19-25-2.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.191-2011,  
 2 SECTION 42, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 3 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 2.5. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), if an  
 4 individual requests the release of identifying information under section  
 5 2 of this chapter regarding an adoptee who is less than twenty-one (21)  
 6 years of age, the state registrar, the department, a **county local** office,  
 7 ~~of family and children~~, a licensed child placing agency, a professional  
 8 health care provider, an attorney, and a court may not release  
 9 identifying information under this chapter unless the adoptee's adoptive  
 10 parent has submitted a written consent for the release of identifying  
 11 information.

12 (b) The state registrar, the department, a **county local** office, ~~of~~  
 13 ~~family and children~~, a licensed child placing agency, a professional  
 14 health care provider, an attorney, and a court may not release  
 15 identifying information under this chapter if the request for the release  
 16 of identifying information involves an adoptee to whom both of the  
 17 following apply:

18 (1) The adoptee is less than twenty-one (21) years of age.

19 (2) The adoptee's name is on the list provided to the state  
 20 department of health under IC 31-25-2-22.

21 (c) A licensed child placing agency, a professional health care  
 22 provider, an attorney, and a court:

23 (1) may request that the state department of health search the list  
 24 provided under IC 31-25-2-22 to determine whether an adoptee's  
 25 name is on the list; and

26 (2) shall, at the time of the request, provide:

27 (A) the name of the adoptee at the time parental rights were  
 28 terminated; and

29 (B) an affidavit under penalty of perjury affirming that the  
 30 licensed child placing agency, professional health care  
 31 provider, attorney, or court is seeking information regarding  
 32 the adoptee for the purpose of providing identifying  
 33 information under this chapter.

34 (d) Not later than five (5) days after the state department of health  
 35 receives a request and affidavit under subsection (c), the state  
 36 department of health shall submit an affidavit to the child placing  
 37 agency, professional health care provider, attorney, or court verifying  
 38 whether the adoptee's name is on the list provided under IC 31-25-2-22.

39 SECTION 77. IC 31-19-25-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.191-2011,  
 40 SECTION 43, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 41 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 3. (a) A birth parent may restrict access to  
 42 identifying information concerning the birth parent by filing a written

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1 nonrelease form with the state registrar that evidences the birth parent's  
 2 lack of consent to the release of identifying information under this  
 3 chapter.

4 (b) A person who arranges for the signing of a consent to adoption  
 5 shall provide the birth parent with a nonrelease form and the  
 6 explanation described in IC 31-19-9-6.

7 (c) Except as provided in sections 15 and 17 of this chapter, the  
 8 following persons may not release any identifying information  
 9 concerning a birth parent to an individual requesting the release of  
 10 identifying information under section 2 of this chapter if a nonrelease  
 11 form is in effect at the time of the request for identifying information:

- 12 (1) The state registrar.
- 13 (2) The department.
- 14 (3) A ~~county local~~ office. ~~of family and children.~~
- 15 (4) A licensed child placing agency.
- 16 (5) A professional health care provider.
- 17 (6) The attorney who arranged the adoption.
- 18 (7) A court.

19 (d) Except as provided in subsection (f), the nonrelease form filed  
 20 under this section:

- 21 (1) remains in effect during the period indicated by the individual  
 22 submitting the form;
- 23 (2) is renewable; and
- 24 (3) may be withdrawn at any time by the individual who  
 25 submitted the form.

26 (e) The nonrelease form is no longer in effect if the birth parent  
 27 consents in writing to the release of identifying information and has not  
 28 withdrawn that consent.

29 (f) A nonrelease form is no longer in effect if the birth parent who  
 30 filed the nonrelease form is deceased unless the nonrelease form  
 31 specifically states that the nonrelease form remains in effect after the  
 32 birth parent's death.

33 SECTION 78. IC 31-19-25-3.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.191-2011,  
 34 SECTION 44, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 35 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 3.5. The following persons shall send a copy of a  
 36 written nonrelease form received by the person from a birth parent to  
 37 the state registrar:

- 38 (1) The department.
- 39 (2) A ~~county local~~ office. ~~of family and children.~~
- 40 (3) A licensed child placing agency.
- 41 (4) A professional health care provider.
- 42 (5) An attorney.



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- 1 (6) A court.  
 2 SECTION 79. IC 31-19-25-13, AS AMENDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
 3 SECTION 263, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 4 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 13. (a) The following persons may  
 5 charge a reasonable fee for actual expenses incurred in complying with  
 6 this chapter:  
 7 (1) A licensed child placing agency.  
 8 (2) The court.  
 9 (3) The department.  
 10 (4) A **county local** office. ~~of family and children~~.  
 11 (5) A professional health care provider.  
 12 (6) The state department of health, except as provided in  
 13 subsection (b).  
 14 (b) The state department of health may not charge a fee for filing a  
 15 nonrelease form under this chapter.  
 16 SECTION 80. IC 31-19-25-18, AS ADDED BY P.L.191-2011,  
 17 SECTION 50, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 18 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 18. An individual who submits a request for the  
 19 release of identifying information under section 2 of this chapter may  
 20 contact:  
 21 (1) a **county local** office; ~~of family and children~~;  
 22 (2) a licensed child placing agency; or  
 23 (3) the attorney who arranged the adoption;  
 24 to request that the **county local** office, ~~of family and children~~, the  
 25 licensed child placing agency, or the attorney contact an adoptee whose  
 26 consent is necessary before identifying information may be released  
 27 under this chapter.  
 28 SECTION 81. IC 31-19-25-18.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.191-2011,  
 29 SECTION 51, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 30 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 18.5. An attorney, a licensed child placing agency,  
 31 and a **county local** office ~~of family and children~~ may not contact an  
 32 adoptee, a birth parent, or an adoptive parent or disclose identifying  
 33 information upon a request under section 18 of this chapter if the  
 34 request involves an adoptee to whom both of the following apply:  
 35 (1) The adoptee is less than twenty-one (21) years of age.  
 36 (2) The adoptee's name is on the list provided to the state  
 37 department of health under IC 31-25-2-22.  
 38 SECTION 82. IC 31-19-25-19, AS ADDED BY P.L.191-2011,  
 39 SECTION 52, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 40 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 19. (a) Except as provided in section 18.5 of this  
 41 chapter and subject to section 21 of this chapter, upon a request  
 42 described under section 18 of this chapter, a **county local** office, ~~of~~

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1 ~~family and children~~; a licensed child placing agency, or an attorney that  
 2 contacts an adoptee may not disclose identifying information unless the  
 3 adoptee:

- 4 (1) if the adoptee is at least twenty-one (21) years of age, gives  
 5 written consent; or  
 6 (2) if the adoptee is less than twenty-one (21) years of age, has the  
 7 written consent of the adoptee's adoptive parents;

8 to the release of identifying information by the **county local** office, ~~of~~  
 9 ~~family and children~~, the licensed child placing agency, or the attorney.

10 (b) If:

- 11 (1) an adoptee who is at least twenty-one (21) years of age; or  
 12 (2) an adoptive parent of an adoptee who is less than twenty-one  
 13 (21) years of age;

14 consents to the release of identifying information but does not provide  
 15 the consent in writing, the **county local** office, ~~of family and children~~,  
 16 the licensed child placing agency, or the attorney may inform the birth  
 17 parent regarding the fact that the adoptee or the adoptive parent has  
 18 consented to the release of identifying information. The **county local**  
 19 office, ~~of family and children~~, the licensed child placing agency, or the  
 20 attorney may inquire as to whether the adoptee or adoptive parent,  
 21 whose consent is still needed before identifying information may be  
 22 released, is interested in participating in the adoption registry under  
 23 IC 31-19-18 through IC 31-19-24, this chapter, ~~or and~~ IC 31-19-25.5.

24 SECTION 83. IC 31-19-25-20, AS ADDED BY P.L.191-2011,  
 25 SECTION 53, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 26 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 20. (a) A **county local** office, ~~of family and~~  
 27 ~~children~~, a licensed child placing agency, or an attorney may charge a  
 28 reasonable fee for services performed or actual expenses incurred  
 29 under section 19 of this chapter.

30 (b) The following persons may charge a reasonable fee for actual  
 31 expenses incurred in complying with this chapter:

- 32 (1) A licensed child placing agency.  
 33 (2) The court.  
 34 (3) The department.  
 35 (4) A **county local** office. ~~of family and children~~.  
 36 (5) A professional health care provider.  
 37 (6) An attorney.  
 38 (7) The state department of health.

39 SECTION 84. IC 31-19-27-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
 40 SECTION 265, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 41 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 2. The department may:

- 42 (1) delegate a part of the program to a **county local** office; ~~of~~

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1 ~~family and children;~~ and

2 (2) deliver a program service through a contract with another  
3 person.

4 SECTION 85. IC 31-19-29-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
5 SECTION 269, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
6 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 5. (a) A child with special needs  
7 resident in this state who is the subject of an adoption assistance  
8 agreement with another state shall be entitled to receive a medical  
9 assistance identification from this state upon the filing in the ~~county~~  
10 **local** office ~~of family and children~~ for the county in which the child  
11 resides of a certified copy of the adoption assistance agreement  
12 obtained from the adoption assistance state. In accordance with rules  
13 of the department, the adoptive parents shall be required at least  
14 annually to show that the agreement is still in force or has been  
15 renewed.

16 (b) The department shall consider the holder of a medical assistance  
17 identification pursuant to this section as any other holder of a medical  
18 assistance identification under the laws of this state and shall process  
19 and make payment on claims on account of such holder in the same  
20 manner and pursuant to the same conditions and procedures as for  
21 other recipients of medical assistance.

22 (c) The department shall provide coverage and benefits for a child  
23 who is in another state and who is covered by an adoption assistance  
24 agreement made by the department for the coverage or benefits, if any,  
25 not provided by the residence state. To this end, the adoptive parents  
26 acting for the child may submit evidence of payment for services or  
27 benefit amounts not payable in the residence state and shall be  
28 reimbursed therefor. However, there shall be no reimbursement for  
29 services or benefit amounts covered under any insurance or other third  
30 party medical contract or arrangement held by the child or the adoptive  
31 parents. The department shall adopt rules implementing this  
32 subsection. The additional coverages and benefit amounts provided  
33 pursuant to this subsection shall be for services to the cost of which  
34 there is no federal contribution, or which, if federally aided, are not  
35 provided by the residence state. Among other things, such rules shall  
36 include procedures to be followed in obtaining prior approvals for  
37 services in those instances where required for the assistance.

38 (d) A person who submits any claim for payment or reimbursement  
39 for services or benefits pursuant to this section or makes any statement  
40 in connection therewith, which claim or statement the maker knows or  
41 should know to be false, misleading, or fraudulent commits a Class D  
42 felony.

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1 (e) The provisions of this section shall apply only to medical  
 2 assistance for children under adoption assistance agreements from  
 3 states that have entered into a compact with this state under which the  
 4 other state provides medical assistance to children with special needs  
 5 under adoption assistance agreements made by this state. All other  
 6 children entitled to medical assistance pursuant to adoption assistance  
 7 agreements entered into by this state shall be eligible to receive it in  
 8 accordance with the laws and procedures applicable thereto.

9 SECTION 86. IC 31-25-2-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.146-2008,  
 10 SECTION 564, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 11 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 5. (a) The department shall ensure  
 12 that the department maintains staffing levels of family case managers  
 13 so that each **county region** has enough family case managers to allow  
 14 caseloads to be at not more than:

- 15 (1) twelve (12) active cases relating to initial assessments,  
 16 including investigations of an allegation of child abuse or neglect;  
 17 or  
 18 (2) seventeen (17) children monitored and supervised in active  
 19 cases relating to ongoing services.

20 (b) The department shall comply with the maximum caseload ratios  
 21 described in subsection (a).

22 SECTION 87. IC 31-25-2-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.146-2008,  
 23 SECTION 565, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 24 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 7. (a) The department is responsible  
 25 for the following:

- 26 (1) Providing child protection services under this article.  
 27 (2) Providing and administering child abuse and neglect  
 28 prevention services.  
 29 (3) Providing and administering child services.  
 30 (4) Providing and administering family services.  
 31 (5) Providing family preservation services under IC 31-26-5.  
 32 (6) Regulating and licensing the following under IC 31-27:  
 33 (A) Child caring institutions.  
 34 (B) Foster family homes.  
 35 (C) Group homes.  
 36 (D) Child placing agencies.  
 37 (7) Administering the state's plan for the administration of Title  
 38 IV-D of the federal Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 651 et seq.).  
 39 (8) Administering foster care services.  
 40 (9) Administering independent living services (as described in 42  
 41 U.S.C. 677 et seq.).  
 42 (10) Administering adoption services.



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- 1 (11) Certifying and providing grants to the youth services bureaus  
 2 under IC 31-26-1.
- 3 (12) Administering the project safe program.
- 4 (13) Paying for programs and services as provided under  
 5 IC 31-40.
- 6 **(14) Obtaining on an annual basis a consumer report, as**  
 7 **defined in 42 U.S.C. 1681a(d), for each child at least fifteen**  
 8 **(15) years of age who is in state foster care.**
- 9 (b) This chapter does not authorize or require the department to:  
 10 (1) investigate or report on proceedings under IC 31-17-2 relating  
 11 to a child who is not the subject of an open child in need of  
 12 services case under IC 31-34; or  
 13 (2) otherwise monitor child custody or visitation in dissolution of  
 14 marriage proceedings.
- 15 (c) This chapter does not authorize or require the department to:  
 16 (1) conduct home studies; or  
 17 (2) otherwise participate in guardianship proceedings under  
 18 IC 29-3;  
 19 other than those over which the juvenile court has jurisdiction under  
 20 IC 29-3-2-1(c) or IC 31-30-1-1(10).
- 21 SECTION 88. IC 31-25-2-20.4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.131-2009,  
 22 SECTION 32, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 23 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 20.4. (a) The department shall establish at least  
 24 three (3) citizen review panels in accordance with the requirements of  
 25 the federal Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act under 42 U.S.C.  
 26 5106a.
- 27 (b) A citizen review panel consists of volunteer members who  
 28 broadly represent the community in which the panel is established,  
 29 including members who have expertise in the prevention and treatment  
 30 of child abuse and neglect.
- 31 (c) The department shall appoint the citizen review panels in the  
 32 following manner:  
 33 (1) One (1) panel must be a community child protection team  
 34 established in a county under IC 31-33-3-1, selected by the  
 35 director of the department with the consent of the team.  
 36 (2) One (1) panel must be either:  
 37 (A) the statewide child fatality review committee established  
 38 under IC 31-33-25-6; or  
 39 (B) a local child fatality review team established under  
 40 IC 31-33-24-6;  
 41 selected by the director of the department with the consent of the  
 42 committee or team.

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1 (3) One (1) panel must be a foster care advisory panel consisting  
2 of at least five (5) and not more than eleven (11) members,  
3 selected to the extent feasible from the membership of any foster  
4 care advisory group previously established or recognized by the  
5 department. If the panel consists of seven (7) or fewer members,  
6 the panel must include at least one (1) foster parent licensed by  
7 the department ~~through a county office~~ and one (1) foster parent  
8 licensed by the department through a child placing agency  
9 licensed under IC 31-27-6. If the panel consists of more than  
10 seven (7) members, the panel must include two (2) foster parents  
11 licensed by the department ~~through a county office~~ and two (2)  
12 foster parents licensed by the department through a child placing  
13 agency licensed under IC 31-27-6. Additional members of the  
14 panel must include one (1) or more individuals who are employed  
15 by a child placing agency licensed under IC 31-27-6 and who  
16 provide services to foster families and children placed by the  
17 department in out-of-home placements, and may include other  
18 representatives of child welfare service providers or persons who  
19 provide training to current or prospective foster parents. All  
20 members of this panel must be individuals who are not employees  
21 of the department.

22 (4) The membership of any additional citizen review panels  
23 established under this section shall be determined by the director  
24 of the department, consistent with the guidelines for panel  
25 membership stated in subsection (b) and the purposes and  
26 functions of the panels as described in this section.

27 (5) Each citizen review panel shall be appointed for a term of  
28 three (3) years beginning July 1, 2007. Upon expiration of the  
29 term of the panel described in subdivision (1), the director of the  
30 department shall select a community child protection team  
31 established in a different county for the succeeding term. Upon  
32 expiration of the term of the panel described in subdivision (2),  
33 the director of the department shall select a different fatality  
34 review team, or committee, if available, for the succeeding term.  
35 Panels appointed under subdivision (3) or (4) may be reappointed  
36 for successive terms, in the discretion of the director of the  
37 department. The director may appoint individuals as needed to fill  
38 vacancies that occur during the term of any panel appointed under  
39 subdivision (3) or (4).

40 (d) A citizen review panel shall evaluate the extent to which a child  
41 welfare agency is effectively discharging the agency's child protection  
42 responsibilities by examining:

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- 1 (1) the policies and procedures of child welfare agencies;  
 2 (2) if appropriate, specific child protective services cases; and  
 3 (3) other criteria the citizen review panel considers important to  
 4 ensure the protection of children.
- 5 (e) Each citizen review panel shall:  
 6 (1) meet at least one (1) time every three (3) months; and  
 7 (2) prepare and make available to the department and the public  
 8 an annual report that contains a summary of the activities of the  
 9 citizen review panel.
- 10 (f) The department shall, not more than six (6) months after the date  
 11 the department receives a report from a citizen review panel under  
 12 subsection (e), submit to the citizen review panel a written response  
 13 indicating whether and how the department will incorporate the  
 14 recommendations of the citizen review panel. The department shall at  
 15 the same time provide appropriate child welfare agencies with copies  
 16 of the department's written response.
- 17 (g) A child welfare agency shall make all reports and other materials  
 18 in the child welfare agency's possession available to a citizen review  
 19 panel established under this section, including any reports and  
 20 materials that the child welfare agency has received from other  
 21 agencies.
- 22 (h) A member of a citizen review panel may not disclose to a person  
 23 or government official any identifying information that is provided to  
 24 the citizen review panel about:  
 25 (1) a specific child protective services case or child welfare  
 26 agency case;  
 27 (2) a child or member of the child's family who is the subject of  
 28 a child protective services assessment; or  
 29 (3) any other individuals identified in confidential reports,  
 30 documents, or other materials.
- 31 (i) If a member of a citizen review panel violates subsection (h), the  
 32 department may remove the member from the citizen review panel.
- 33 (j) A child welfare agency shall cooperate and work with each  
 34 citizen review panel established under this section.
- 35 SECTION 89. IC 31-25-4-17, AS AMENDED BY P.L.80-2010,  
 36 SECTION 49, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 37 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 17. (a) The bureau shall do the following:  
 38 (1) Collect support payments when the payments have been  
 39 assigned to the state by the application for assistance under Title  
 40 IV-A.  
 41 (2) Assist in obtaining a support order, including an order for  
 42 health insurance coverage under:

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- 1 (A) IC 27-8-23;  
 2 (B) IC 31-14-11-3; or  
 3 (C) IC 31-16-6-4;  
 4 when there is no existing order and assistance is sought.  
 5 (3) Assist mothers of children born out of wedlock in establishing  
 6 paternity and obtaining a support order, including an order for  
 7 health insurance coverage under IC 27-8-23, when the mother has  
 8 applied for assistance.  
 9 (4) Implement income withholding in any Title IV-D case:  
 10 (A) with an arrearage; and  
 11 (B) without an order issued by a court or an administrative  
 12 agency.  
 13 (5) Enforce intrastate and interstate support orders using high  
 14 volume automated enforcement features.  
 15 (6) Use a simplified procedure for the review and adjustment of  
 16 support orders as set forth in 42 U.S.C. 666(a)(10).  
 17 (7) In any Title IV-D case, petition:  
 18 (A) a court to:  
 19 (i) establish paternity for a child born out of wedlock; and  
 20 (ii) establish a support order, including an order for health  
 21 insurance coverage under IC 27-8-23, IC 31-14-11-3, or  
 22 IC 31-16-6-4; and  
 23 (B) a court to establish or modify a support order, including an  
 24 order for health insurance coverage under IC 27-8-23,  
 25 IC 31-14-11-3, or IC 31-16-6-4, if:  
 26 (i) there is no existing support order; or  
 27 (ii) the existing order does not include a provision for  
 28 private health insurance.  
 29 (b) Whenever the bureau collects support payments on behalf of an  
 30 individual who is no longer a member of a household that receives  
 31 Title IV-A cash payments, the collected support payments (except  
 32 collections made through a federal tax refund offset) shall be promptly  
 33 distributed in the following order:  
 34 (1) Payment to the recipient of the court ordered support  
 35 obligation for the month that the support payment is received.  
 36 (2) Payment to the recipient of the support payment arrearages  
 37 that have accrued during any period when the recipient was not a  
 38 member of a household receiving Title IV-A assistance.  
 39 (3) Payment to the state in an amount not to exceed the lesser of:  
 40 (A) the total amount of past public assistance paid to the  
 41 recipient's family; or  
 42 (B) the amount assigned to the state by the recipient under

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- 1 IC 12-14-7-1.
- 2 (4) Payment of support payment arrearages owed to the recipient.
- 3 (5) Payment of any other support payments payable to the
- 4 recipient.
- 5 (c) Whenever the bureau receives a payment through a federal tax
- 6 refund offset on behalf of an individual who has received or is
- 7 receiving Title IV-A assistance, the child support payment shall be
- 8 distributed as follows:
- 9 (1) To the state, an amount not to exceed the lesser of:
- 10 (A) the total amount of past public assistance paid to the
- 11 individual's family; or
- 12 (B) the amount assigned to the state by the individual under
- 13 IC 12-14-7-1.
- 14 (2) To the individual, any amounts remaining after the
- 15 distribution under subdivision (1).
- 16 (d) Except as provided in section 19.5 of this chapter, whenever the
- 17 bureau collects a child support payment from any source on behalf of
- 18 an individual who has never received Title IV-A assistance, the bureau
- 19 shall forward all money collected to the individual.
- 20 (e) Whenever the bureau receives a child support payment on behalf
- 21 of an individual who currently receives a Title IV-A cash payment or
- 22 an individual whose cash payment was recouped, the child support
- 23 payment shall be distributed as follows:
- 24 (1) To the state, an amount not to exceed the lesser of:
- 25 (A) the total amount of past public assistance paid to the
- 26 individual's family; or
- 27 (B) the amount assigned to the state by the individual under
- 28 IC 12-14-7-1.
- 29 (2) To the individual, any amounts remaining after the
- 30 distribution under subdivision (1).
- 31 (f) Unless otherwise required by federal law, not more than
- 32 seventy-five (75) days after a written request by a recipient, the bureau
- 33 shall provide an accounting report to the recipient that identifies the
- 34 bureau's claim to a child support payment or arrearage.
- 35 (g) The bureau, the department of child services, and the department
- 36 of state revenue may not charge a custodial parent a fee to seek or
- 37 receive a payment through a federal tax refund offset as described in
- 38 subsection (c).
- 39 **(h) When the payment of support has been assigned to the state**
- 40 **by the application of assistance under Title IV-A or Title IV-E, the**
- 41 **Title IV-D agency shall:**
- 42 **(1) first provide notice to the obligee and the obligor that the**

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1            **payment of support has been assigned to the state; and**  
2            **(2) direct the clerk of court or the state central collection unit**  
3            **to forward the child support payment directly to the Title**  
4            **IV-D agency without further notice of the court.**

5            **(i) A payment directed to the Title IV-D agency under**  
6            **subsection (h) shall be disbursed in accordance with federal**  
7            **regulations governing the Title IV-D program.**

8            SECTION 90. IC 31-25-4-19, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
9            SECTION 271, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
10           [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 19. All services provided under  
11           section 17 of this chapter and IC 31-25-3-2 must be available to  
12           individuals (other than recipients or applicants for the federal  
13           Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program (45 CFR  
14           265)) upon application for the services, ~~when accompanied by the~~  
15           **payment of as required by 42 U.S.C. 654(6).** An application fee as set  
16           by the Title IV-D agency **must be paid in accordance with the**  
17           **department's rules adopted under IC 4-22-2.** Fees other than the  
18           application fee must be imposed in accord with federal law governing  
19           this program.

20           SECTION 91. IC 31-26-2 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,  
21           2012]. (Assistance of Destitute Children).

22           SECTION 92. IC 31-26-6-9, AS ADDED BY P.L.146-2008,  
23           SECTION 571, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
24           [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 9. In preparing the plan under  
25           section 5 of this chapter, a regional services council shall review and  
26           consider existing publicly and privately funded programs that are  
27           available or that could be made available in the regional services  
28           council's service region to provide supportive services to or for the  
29           benefit of children described in section 5 of this chapter without  
30           removing the child from the family home, including programs funded  
31           through the following:

- 32           (1) Title IV-B of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 620 et seq.).
- 33           (2) Title IV-E of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 670 et seq.).
- 34           (3) Title XX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1397 et seq.).
- 35           (4) The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C.  
36           5106 et seq.).
- 37           (5) Special education programs under IC 20-35-6-2.
- 38           (6) All programs designed to prevent child abuse, neglect, or  
39           delinquency, or to enhance child welfare and family preservation  
40           administered by, or through funding provided by, the department,  
41           ~~county offices~~, prosecuting attorneys, or juvenile courts, including  
42           programs funded under IC 31-26-3.5 and IC 31-40.



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1           (7) ~~A child advocacy fund under IC 12-17-17.~~  
2           SECTION 93. IC 31-27-2-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.1-2007,  
3           SECTION 201, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
4           [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 1. The department shall perform the  
5           following duties:

- 6           (1) Administer the licensing and monitoring of child caring  
7           institutions, foster family homes, group homes, and child placing  
8           agencies in accordance with this article.
- 9           (2) Ensure that a criminal history ~~background~~ check of an  
10          applicant is ~~completed~~ **conducted under IC 31-9-2-22.5** before  
11          issuing a license.
- 12          (3) Provide for the issuance, denial, and revocation of licenses.
- 13          (4) Cooperate with governing bodies of child caring institutions,  
14          foster family homes, group homes, and child placing agencies and  
15          their staffs to improve standards of child care.
- 16          (5) Prepare at least biannually a directory of licensees, except for  
17          foster family homes, with a description of the program capacity  
18          and type of children served that will be distributed to the  
19          legislature, licensees, and other interested parties as a public  
20          document.
- 21          (6) Deposit all license application fees collected under section 2  
22          of this chapter in the department of child services child care fund  
23          established by IC 31-25-2-16.

24          SECTION 94. IC 31-27-2-2, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
25          SECTION 273, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
26          [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 2. The department may do the  
27          following:

- 28          (1) Prescribe forms for reports, statements, notices, and other  
29          documents required by this article or by the rules adopted under  
30          this article.
- 31          (2) Increase public awareness of this article and the rules adopted  
32          under this article by preparing and publishing manuals and guides  
33          explaining this article and the rules adopted under this article.
- 34          (3) Facilitate compliance with and enforcement of this article  
35          through the publication of materials under subdivision (2).
- 36          (4) Prepare reports and studies to advance the purpose of this  
37          article.
- 38          (5) Seek the advice and recommendations of state agencies whose  
39          information and knowledge would be of assistance in writing,  
40          revising, or monitoring rules developed under this article. These  
41          agencies, including the office of the attorney general, state  
42          department of health, division of mental health and addiction,

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1 bureau of criminal identification and investigation, **division of**  
2 **family resources, the state police department,** and fire  
3 prevention and building safety commission, shall upon request  
4 supply necessary information to the department.

5 (6) Make the directory of licensees available to the public for a  
6 charge not to exceed the cost of reproducing the directory.

7 (7) Charge a reasonable processing fee for each license  
8 application and renewal as follows:

9 (A) For a child caring institution or group home license, a fee  
10 not to exceed three dollars (\$3) for each licensed bed based on  
11 total licensed bed capacity not to exceed a maximum fee of  
12 one hundred fifty dollars (\$150).

13 (B) For a child placing agency license, a fee not to exceed fifty  
14 dollars (\$50).

15 (8) Exercise any other regulatory and administrative powers  
16 necessary to carry out the functions of the department.

17 SECTION 95. IC 31-27-2-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.162-2011,  
18 SECTION 22, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
19 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 4. (a) The department shall adopt rules under  
20 IC 4-22-2, including emergency rules under IC 4-22-2-37.1, concerning  
21 the licensing and inspection of:

22 (1) child caring institutions, foster family homes, group homes,  
23 and child placing agencies after consultation with the following:

24 (1) (A) State department of health.

25 (2) (B) Fire prevention and building safety commission; **and**  
26 **(2) child caring institutions and group homes that are licensed**  
27 **for infants and toddlers after consultation with the division of**  
28 **family resources.**

29 (b) The rules adopted under subsection (a) shall be applied by the  
30 department and state fire marshal in the licensing and inspection of  
31 applicants for a license and licensees under this article.

32 (c) The rules adopted under IC 4-22-2 must establish minimum  
33 standards for the care and treatment of children in a secure private  
34 facility.

35 (d) The rules described in subsection (c) must include standards  
36 governing the following:

37 (1) Admission criteria.

38 (2) General physical and environmental conditions.

39 (3) Services and programs to be provided to confined children.

40 (4) Procedures for ongoing monitoring and discharge planning.

41 (5) Procedures for the care and control of confined persons that  
42 are necessary to ensure the health, safety, and treatment of

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1 confined children.  
2 (e) The department shall license a facility as a secure private facility  
3 if the facility:  
4 (1) meets the minimum standards required under subsection (c);  
5 (2) provides a continuum of care and services; and  
6 (3) is  
7 (A) licensed under ~~IC 12-25, IC 16-21-2, or IC 31-27-3.~~ or  
8 (B) ~~a unit of a facility licensed under IC 12-25 or IC 16-21-2;~~  
9 ~~regardless of the facility's duration of or previous licensure as a child~~  
10 ~~caring institution.~~  
11 (f) A waiver of the rules may not be granted for treatment and  
12 reporting requirements.  
13 SECTION 96. IC 31-27-3-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.162-2011,  
14 SECTION 23, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
15 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 3. (a) An applicant must apply for a child caring  
16 institution license on forms provided by the department.  
17 (b) An applicant must submit the required information as part of the  
18 application.  
19 (c) The applicant must submit with the application a statement  
20 attesting the following:  
21 (1) ~~That~~ **Whether** the applicant has ~~not~~ been convicted of:  
22 (A) a felony; or  
23 (B) a misdemeanor relating to the health and safety of  
24 children.  
25 (2) ~~That~~ **Whether** the applicant has ~~not~~ been charged with:  
26 (A) a felony; or  
27 (B) a misdemeanor relating to the health and safety of  
28 children;  
29 during the pendency of the application.  
30 (d) The department, on behalf of an applicant, or, at the discretion  
31 of the department, an applicant, shall conduct a criminal history check  
32 of the following:  
33 (1) Each individual who is an applicant.  
34 (2) The director or manager of a facility where children will be  
35 placed.  
36 (3) An employee or a volunteer of the applicant who has or will  
37 have direct contact on a regular and continuing basis with a child  
38 who is or will be placed in a facility operated by the applicant.  
39 (e) If the applicant conducts a criminal history check under  
40 subsection (d), the applicant shall:  
41 (1) maintain records of the information it receives concerning  
42 each individual who is the subject of a criminal history check; and

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- 1 (2) submit to the department a copy of the information it receives
- 2 concerning each person described in subsection (d)(1) through
- 3 (d)(3).
- 4 (f) If the department conducts a criminal history check on behalf of
- 5 an applicant under subsection (d), the department shall:
- 6 (1) determine whether the subject of a national fingerprint based
- 7 criminal history check has a record of:
- 8 (A) a conviction for a felony;
- 9 (B) a conviction for a misdemeanor relating to the health and
- 10 safety of a child; or
- 11 (C) a juvenile adjudication for an act listed in
- 12 IC 31-27-4-13(a) that, if committed by an adult, would be a
- 13 felony;
- 14 (2) notify the applicant of the determination under subdivision (1)
- 15 without identifying a specific offense or other identifying
- 16 information concerning a conviction or juvenile adjudication
- 17 contained in the national criminal history record information;
- 18 (3) submit to the applicant a copy of any state limited criminal
- 19 history report that the department receives on behalf of any person
- 20 described in subsection (d); and
- 21 (4) maintain a record of every report and all information the
- 22 department receives concerning a person described in subsection
- 23 (d).
- 24 (g) Except as provided in subsection (h), a criminal history check
- 25 described in subsection (d) is required only at the time an application
- 26 for a new license or the renewal of an existing license is submitted.
- 27 (h) A criminal history check of a person described in subsection
- 28 (d)(2) or (d)(3) must be completed on or before the date the person:
- 29 (1) is employed; ~~or~~
- 30 (2) is assigned as a volunteer; ~~or~~
- 31 (3) **has direct contact on a regular and continuing basis with**
- 32 **a child who is or will be placed in a facility operated by the**
- 33 **applicant.** However, a fingerprint based criminal history
- 34 background check under IC 31-9-2-22.5(1)(B) for a person
- 35 described in subsection (d)(3) must be completed not later than
- 36 the conclusion of the first ninety (90) days of employment in or
- 37 assignment of a volunteer to a position described in subsection
- 38 (d)(3). If a person described in this subsection has been the
- 39 subject of a criminal history check (as described in
- 40 IC 31-9-2-22.5) that was conducted not more than one (1) year
- 41 before the date the license application is submitted to the
- 42 department, a new criminal history check of that person is not

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required:  
(i) An applicant or licensee may provisionally employ an individual or assign a volunteer described in subsection (d)(3) for whom a criminal history check is required under subsection (d)(3) during the period after the process of requesting fingerprint based criminal history background check information has been initiated by or on behalf of the applicant or licensee but before the determination is obtained by or communicated to the applicant or licensee. If the determination is not received by not later than the ninety (90) days after the effective date of hire or volunteer assignment, the employee or volunteer relationship must be terminated or suspended until a determination is received. An employee or volunteer whose determination has not yet been received may not have direct contact with a child who is or will be placed at a facility operated by the applicant or licensee unless the direct contact occurs only in the presence of a volunteer or employee of the applicant or licensee who has been the subject of a completed and approved criminal history check. In determining whether to provisionally hire or assign as a volunteer an individual described in subsection (d)(3), the applicant or licensee shall consider the following:

- (1) The training time required by an employee or a volunteer.
- (2) The safety and security of the children under the supervision of the applicant or licensee.
- (3) The safety and security of the other staff and volunteers working under the supervision of the applicant or licensee.
- (4) The staffing concerns of the applicant or licensee.
- (5) Any other factor relating to the safety and security of the applicant's or licensee's operations.

**(i) The applicant or facility is responsible for any fees associated with a criminal history check.**

(j) The department shall, at the applicant's request, inform the applicant whether the department has or does not have a record of the person who is the subject of a criminal history ~~background~~ check and if the department has identified the person as an alleged perpetrator of abuse or neglect. The department may not provide to the applicant any details or personally identifying information contained in any child protective services investigation report.

(k) A person who is the subject of a criminal history check conducted in accordance with this section may request the state police department to provide the person with a copy of any state or national criminal history report concerning the person.

SECTION 97. IC 31-27-3-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.162-2011, SECTION 24, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE

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1 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 5. (a) The following constitute sufficient grounds  
 2 for a denial of a license application:  
 3 (1) A determination by the department of child abuse or neglect  
 4 by:  
 5 (A) the applicant; or  
 6 (B) an employee or a volunteer of the applicant who has direct  
 7 contact, on a regular and continuous basis, with children who  
 8 are under the direct supervision of the applicant.  
 9 (2) A criminal conviction of the applicant, or the director or  
 10 manager of a facility where children will be placed by the  
 11 applicant, of:  
 12 (A) a felony;  
 13 (B) a misdemeanor related to the health and safety of a child;  
 14 (C) a misdemeanor for operating a child caring institution,  
 15 foster family home, group home, or child placing agency  
 16 without a license under this article (or IC 12-17.4 before its  
 17 repeal); or  
 18 (D) a misdemeanor for operating a child care center or child  
 19 care home without a license under IC 12-17.2.  
 20 (3) A determination by the department that the applicant made  
 21 false statements in the applicant's application for licensure.  
 22 (4) A determination by the department that the applicant made  
 23 false statements in the records required by the department.  
 24 (5) A determination by the department that:  
 25 (A) the applicant; or  
 26 (B) an employee or a volunteer of the applicant who has direct  
 27 contact, on a regular and continuous basis, with children who  
 28 are under the direct supervision of the applicant;  
 29 previously operated a home or facility without a license required  
 30 under any applicable provision of this article (or IC 12-17.4  
 31 before its repeal) or IC 12-17.2.  
 32 (6) A juvenile adjudication of the applicant for an act listed in  
 33 IC 31-27-4-13(a) that, if committed by an adult, would be a  
 34 felony.  
 35 (b) An application for a license may also be denied if an employee  
 36 or a volunteer of the applicant who has direct contact on a regular and  
 37 continuous basis with children who are under the direct supervision of  
 38 the applicant has had any of the following:  
 39 (1) A conviction of a felony described in IC 31-27-4-13(a).  
 40 (2) A conviction of any other felony or a misdemeanor relating to  
 41 the health and safety of a child, unless the applicant is granted a  
 42 waiver by the department to employ or assign the person as a

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1 volunteer in a position described in this subsection.  
 2 (3) A juvenile adjudication for an act listed in IC 31-27-4-13(a)  
 3 that, if committed by an adult, would be a felony, unless the  
 4 applicant is granted a waiver by the department to employ or  
 5 assign the person as a volunteer in a position described in this  
 6 subsection.  
 7 (c) In determining whether to grant a waiver under subsection (b),  
 8 the department shall consider the following factors:  
 9 (1) The length of time that has passed since the disqualifying  
 10 conviction.  
 11 (2) The severity, nature, and circumstances of the offense.  
 12 (3) Evidence of rehabilitation.  
 13 (4) The duties and qualifications required for the proposed  
 14 employment positions or volunteer assignment.  
 15 (d) Notwithstanding subsection (a) or (b), if:  
 16 (1) a license application could be denied due to a criminal  
 17 conviction of, or a determination of child abuse or neglect by, an  
 18 employee or a volunteer of the applicant; and  
 19 (2) the department determines that the employee or volunteer has  
 20 been dismissed **before the employee or volunteer has direct**  
 21 **contact on a regular and continuing basis with a child who is**  
 22 **or will be placed in a facility operated** by the applicant;  
 23 the criminal conviction of, or determination of child abuse or neglect  
 24 by, the former employee or former volunteer does not constitute a  
 25 sufficient basis for the denial of a license application.  
 26 (e) The department may adopt rules to implement this section.  
 27 SECTION 98. IC 31-27-3-11, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
 28 SECTION 273, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 29 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 11. (a) The department shall deny  
 30 a license when an applicant fails to meet the requirements for a license.  
 31 (b) The department shall send written notice by certified mail that  
 32 the application has been denied and give the reasons for the denial.  
 33 (c) An administrative hearing concerning the denial of a license  
 34 shall be provided upon written request by the applicant. The request  
 35 must be made not more than thirty (30) days after receiving the written  
 36 notice under subsection (b).  
 37 ~~(d) An administrative hearing shall be held not more than sixty (60)~~  
 38 ~~days after receiving the written request.~~  
 39 ~~(e)~~ (d) An administrative hearing shall be held in accordance with  
 40 IC 4-21.5-3.  
 41 ~~(f) The department shall issue a decision not more than sixty (60)~~  
 42 ~~days after the conclusion of a hearing.~~

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1 SECTION 99. IC 31-27-3-13, AS ADDED BY P.L.146-2006,  
2 SECTION 27, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 13. (a) A license for a child caring institution  
4 expires four (4) years after the date of issuance, unless the license is  
5 revoked ~~modified to a probationary status~~; or voluntarily returned.

6 (b) A license issued under this chapter:  
7 (1) is not transferable;  
8 (2) applies only to the licensee and the location stated in the  
9 application; and  
10 (3) remains the property of the department.

11 (c) When a licensee submits a timely application for renewal, the  
12 current license remains in effect until the department issues a license  
13 or denies the application.

14 (d) A current license must be publicly displayed.

15 SECTION 100. IC 31-27-3-16, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
16 SECTION 273, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
17 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 16. A licensee shall cooperate with  
18 the department, ~~and~~ the state fire marshal, **and any other state agency**  
19 **working on behalf of the department** in carrying out the activities  
20 required by section 15 of this chapter, including permitting the  
21 department, ~~and~~ the state fire marshal, **and any other state agency**  
22 **working on behalf of the department** to conduct announced or  
23 unannounced inspections.

24 SECTION 101. IC 31-27-3-20, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
25 SECTION 273, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
26 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 20. ~~(a)~~ An administrative hearing  
27 concerning the decision of the department to impose a sanction under  
28 this chapter shall be provided upon a written request by the child caring  
29 institution. The request must be made not more than thirty (30) days  
30 after receiving notice under section 19 of this chapter. The written  
31 request must be made separately from an informal meeting request  
32 made under section 19 of this chapter.

33 ~~(b) An administrative hearing shall be held not more than sixty (60)~~  
34 ~~days after receiving the written request.~~

35 SECTION 102. IC 31-27-3-22 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
36 1, 2012]. ~~Sec. 22: The department shall issue a decision not more than~~  
37 ~~sixty (60) days after the conclusion of a hearing.~~

38 SECTION 103. IC 31-27-3-28 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
39 1, 2012]. ~~Sec. 28: A final decision of the department made after a~~  
40 ~~hearing is subject to judicial review under IC 4-21.5-5.~~

41 SECTION 104. IC 31-27-3-29, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
42 SECTION 273, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS

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1 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 29. (a) The department shall  
2 investigate a report of a licensed child caring institution's  
3 noncompliance with this article or the rules adopted under this article.  
4 If there is reasonable cause to believe that a licensee's noncompliance  
5 with this article and rules adopted under this article creates an  
6 imminent danger of serious bodily injury to a child or an imminent  
7 danger to the health of a child, **and the department** shall report the  
8 department's findings to the attorney general and to the ~~county~~ **local**  
9 office and the prosecuting attorney in the county where the institution  
10 is located.

11 (b) The attorney general or the department may do the following:  
12 (1) Seek the issuance of a search warrant to assist in the  
13 investigation.

14 (2) File an action for injunctive relief to stop the operation of a  
15 child caring institution if there is reasonable cause to believe that  
16 a licensee's noncompliance with this article or the rules adopted  
17 under this article creates an imminent danger of serious bodily  
18 injury to a child or an imminent danger to the health of a child.

19 (c) The department may require a plan of corrective action,  
20 **including a hold on new placements**, for emergency protection of the  
21 children described in subsection (b).

22 (d) The department may provide for the removal of children from  
23 child caring institutions described in subsection (b).

24 (e) An opportunity for an informal meeting with the department  
25 shall be available after the injunctive relief is ordered.

26 SECTION 105. IC 31-27-3-30, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
27 SECTION 273, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
28 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 30. A court order granted under  
29 section 29(b)(2) of this chapter expires upon the later of the following:

30 (1) Sixty (60) days after the order is issued.

31 (2) When a final department decision is issued under sections 20  
32 ~~through 22~~ **and 21** of this chapter if notice of an enforcement  
33 action is issued under section 19 of this chapter.

34 SECTION 106. IC 31-27-3-32, AS ADDED BY P.L.146-2006,  
35 SECTION 30, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
36 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 32. (a) A licensee shall operate a child caring  
37 institution in compliance with the rules established under this article  
38 and is subject to the disciplinary sanctions under subsection (b) if the  
39 department finds that the licensee has violated this article or a rule  
40 adopted under this article.

41 (b) After complying with the procedural provisions in sections 19  
42 through ~~22~~ **21** of this chapter, the department may revoke the license

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1 when the department finds that a licensee has committed a violation  
2 under subsection (a).

3 SECTION 107. IC 31-27-3-33, AS AMENDED BY P.L.1-2007,  
4 SECTION 202, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
5 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 33. (a) The department shall  
6 investigate a report of an unlicensed child caring institution and report  
7 the department's findings to the attorney general and to the **county local**  
8 office and the prosecuting attorney in the county where the institution  
9 is located.

10 (b) The attorney general or the department may do the following:

11 (1) Seek the issuance of a search warrant to assist in the  
12 investigation.

13 (2) File an action for injunctive relief to stop the operation of a  
14 child caring institution if there is reasonable cause to believe that  
15 the child caring institution is operating without a license required  
16 under this article.

17 (3) Seek in a civil action a civil penalty not to exceed one hundred  
18 dollars (\$100) a day for each day a child caring institution is  
19 operating without a license required under this article.

20 (c) An opportunity for an informal meeting with the department  
21 shall be available after the injunctive relief is ordered.

22 (d) The civil penalties collected under this section shall be deposited  
23 in the department of child services child care fund established by  
24 IC 31-25-2-16.

25 SECTION 108. IC 31-27-4-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.162-2011,  
26 SECTION 28, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
27 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 5. (a) An applicant must apply for a foster family  
28 home license on forms provided by the department.

29 (b) An applicant must submit the required information as part of the  
30 application.

31 (c) An applicant must submit with the application a statement  
32 attesting the following:

33 (1) Whether the applicant has been convicted of:

34 (A) a felony; or

35 (B) a misdemeanor relating to the health and safety of  
36 children.

37 (2) Whether the applicant has been charged with:

38 (A) a felony; or

39 (B) a misdemeanor relating to the health and safety of  
40 children;

41 during the pendency of the application.

42 (d) An applicant shall submit the necessary information, forms, or

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1 consents for the department to conduct a criminal history check for  
2 each individual who is an applicant.

3 (e) The department or, at the discretion of the department, an  
4 applicant, shall conduct a criminal history check of:

5 (1) the applicant's employees and volunteers who have or will  
6 have direct contact, on a regular and continuing basis, with  
7 children who are or will be under the direct supervision of the  
8 applicant; and

9 (2) all household members who are at least fourteen (14) years of  
10 age.

11 (f) If the applicant conducts criminal history checks under  
12 subsection (e), the applicant shall maintain records of the information  
13 received concerning each individual subject of a criminal history  
14 check.

15 (g) If the department conducts a criminal history check on behalf of  
16 an applicant under subsection (e), the department shall:

17 (1) make a determination whether the subject of a national  
18 fingerprint based criminal history check has a record of:

19 (A) a conviction for a felony;

20 (B) a conviction for a misdemeanor relating to the health and  
21 safety of a child; or

22 (C) a juvenile adjudication for an act listed in section 13(a) of  
23 this chapter that, if committed by an adult, would be a felony;

24 (2) notify the applicant of the determination under subdivision (1)  
25 without identifying a specific offense or other identifying  
26 information concerning a conviction or juvenile adjudication  
27 contained in the national criminal history record information;

28 (3) submit to the applicant a copy of any state limited criminal  
29 history report that the department receives on behalf of any person  
30 described in subsection (e); and

31 (4) maintain a record of every report and all information the  
32 department receives concerning a person described in subsection  
33 (e).

34 (h) Except as provided in subsection (i), a criminal history check  
35 described in subsection (e) is required only at the time an application  
36 for a new license or the renewal of an existing license is submitted.

37 (i) ~~With the exception of a fingerprint based criminal history~~  
38 ~~background check under IC 31-9-2-22.5(1)(B) for a person described~~  
39 ~~in subsection (e)(1);~~ A criminal history check concerning a person  
40 described in subsection (e) must be completed on or before the ~~date on~~  
41 ~~which the subject of the check is first employed or assigned as a~~  
42 ~~volunteer in a position described in subsection (e)(1) date the~~

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1 **employee or volunteer has direct contact on a regular and**  
 2 **continuing basis with a child placed in the home or the person** first  
 3 becomes a resident of the applicant's household as described in  
 4 subsection (e)(2). A fingerprint based criminal history background  
 5 check under IC 31-9-2-22.5(1)(B) for a person described in subsection  
 6 (e)(1) must be completed not later than the conclusion of the first  
 7 ninety (90) days of employment in or assignment of a volunteer.  
 8 However, if a person described in this subsection has been the subject  
 9 of a criminal history check that was conducted not more than one (1)  
 10 year before the date the license application is submitted to the  
 11 department, a new criminal history check of that person is not required:

12 (j) An applicant or a licensee described in subsection (e)(1) may  
 13 provisionally employ an individual or assign a volunteer for whom a  
 14 criminal history check is required during the period after the process of  
 15 requesting fingerprint based criminal history background check  
 16 information has been initiated by or on behalf of the applicant or  
 17 licensee but before the determination is obtained by or communicated  
 18 to the applicant or licensee. If the determination is not received by not  
 19 later than ninety (90) days after the effective date of hire or volunteer  
 20 assignment, the employee or volunteer relationship must be terminated  
 21 or suspended until a determination is received. An employee or  
 22 volunteer whose determination has not yet been received may not have  
 23 direct contact with a child who is or will be placed at a facility operated  
 24 by the applicant or licensee unless the direct contact occurs only in the  
 25 presence of a volunteer or employee of the applicant or licensee who  
 26 has been the subject of a completed and approved criminal history  
 27 check. In determining whether to provisionally hire or assign as a  
 28 volunteer an individual described in subsection (e)(1), the applicant or  
 29 licensee shall consider the following:

- 30 (1) The training time required by an employee or a volunteer.  
 31 (2) The safety and security of the children under the supervision  
 32 of the applicant or licensee.  
 33 (3) The safety and security of the other staff and volunteers  
 34 working under the supervision of the applicant or licensee.  
 35 (4) The staffing concerns of the applicant or licensee.  
 36 (5) Any other factor relating to the safety and security of the  
 37 applicant's or licensee's operations.

38 (j) **The applicant is responsible for any fees associated with a**  
 39 **criminal history check.**

40 (k) The department shall, at the applicant's request, inform the  
 41 applicant whether the department has or does not have a record of the  
 42 person who is the subject of a criminal history background check and

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1 if the department has identified the person as an alleged perpetrator of  
 2 abuse or neglect. The department may not provide to the applicant any  
 3 details or personally identifying information contained in any child  
 4 protective investigation report.

5 (l) A person who is the subject of a criminal history check  
 6 conducted in accordance with this section may request the state police  
 7 department to provide the person with a copy of any state or national  
 8 criminal history report concerning the person.

9 SECTION 109. IC 31-27-4-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.162-2011,  
 10 SECTION 29, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 11 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 6. (a) The following constitute sufficient grounds  
 12 for a denial of a license application:

13 (1) A determination by the department of child abuse or neglect  
 14 by:

15 (A) the applicant;

16 (B) an employee or a volunteer of the applicant who has direct  
 17 contact, on a regular and continuous basis, with children who  
 18 are under the direct supervision of the applicant; or

19 (C) a person residing in the applicant's residence.

20 (2) A criminal conviction of the applicant of any of the following:

21 (A) a felony;

22 (B) a misdemeanor related to the health and safety of a child;

23 (C) a misdemeanor for operating a child care center or child  
 24 care home without a license under IC 12-17.2-5; or

25 (D) a misdemeanor for operating a foster family home without  
 26 a license under this chapter (or IC 12-17.4-4 before its repeal).

27 (3) A determination by the department that the applicant made  
 28 false statements in the applicant's application for licensure.

29 (4) A determination by the department that the applicant made  
 30 false statements in the records required by the department.

31 (5) A determination by the department that:

32 (A) the applicant;

33 (B) an employee or a volunteer of the applicant who has direct  
 34 contact, on a regular and continuous basis, with children who  
 35 are under the direct supervision of the applicant; or

36 (C) a person residing in the applicant's residence;

37 previously operated a child care center or child care home without  
 38 a license under IC 12-17.2-5 or a foster family home without a  
 39 license under this chapter (or IC 12-17.4-4 before its repeal).

40 (6) A juvenile adjudication of the applicant for an act listed in  
 41 section 13(a) of this chapter that, if committed by an adult, would  
 42 be a felony.

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1 (b) An application for a license may also be denied if an individual  
 2 who resides in the residence of the applicant or an employee or  
 3 volunteer of the applicant who has direct contact on a regular and  
 4 continuous basis with children who are under the direct supervision of  
 5 the applicant has had any of the following:

6 (1) A conviction of a felony described in IC 31-27-4-13(a).

7 (2) A conviction of any other felony or a misdemeanor relating to  
 8 the health and safety of a child, unless the applicant is granted a  
 9 waiver by the department to employ or assign the person as a  
 10 volunteer in a position described in this subsection or to permit  
 11 the individual to reside in the applicant's residence.

12 (3) A juvenile adjudication for an act listed in section 13(a) of this  
 13 chapter that, if committed by an adult, would be a felony, unless  
 14 the applicant is granted a waiver by the department to:

15 (A) employ or assign the person as a volunteer in a position  
 16 described in this subsection; or

17 (B) permit the individual to reside in the applicant's residence.

18 (c) In determining whether to grant a waiver under subsection (b),  
 19 the department shall consider the following factors:

20 (1) The length of time that has passed since the disqualifying  
 21 conviction.

22 (2) The severity, nature, and circumstances of the offense.

23 (3) Evidence of rehabilitation.

24 (4) The duties and qualifications required for the proposed  
 25 employment positions or volunteer assignment.

26 (5) The nature and extent of unsupervised contact with children  
 27 residing in the home.

28 (d) Notwithstanding subsection (a) or (b), if:

29 (1) a license application could be denied due to a criminal  
 30 conviction of, or a determination of child abuse or neglect by, an  
 31 employee, a volunteer, or a person residing in the residence of the  
 32 applicant; and

33 (2) the department determines that the employee or volunteer has  
 34 been dismissed **before the employee or volunteer has direct**  
 35 **contact on a regular and continuing basis with a child who is**  
 36 **or will be placed in a facility operated** by the applicant or that  
 37 the person residing in the residence no longer resides there;

38 the criminal conviction of, or determination of child abuse or neglect  
 39 by, the former employee, former volunteer, or former household  
 40 resident does not constitute a sufficient basis for the denial of a license  
 41 application.

42 (e) The department may adopt rules to implement this section.

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1 SECTION 110. IC 31-27-4-13, AS AMENDED BY P.L.162-2011,  
 2 SECTION 31, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 3 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 13. (a) The department shall deny a license when  
 4 an applicant fails to meet the requirements for a license. The  
 5 department shall deny a license to an applicant who has been convicted  
 6 of any of the following felonies:

- 7 (1) Murder (IC 35-42-1-1).
- 8 (2) Causing suicide (IC 35-42-1-2).
- 9 (3) Assisting suicide (IC 35-42-1-2.5).
- 10 (4) Voluntary manslaughter (IC 35-42-1-3).
- 11 (5) Reckless homicide (IC 35-42-1-5).
- 12 (6) Battery (IC 35-42-2-1) within the past five (5) years.
- 13 (7) Domestic battery (IC 35-42-2-1.3).
- 14 (8) Aggravated battery (IC 35-42-2-1.5).
- 15 (9) Kidnapping (IC 35-42-3-2).
- 16 (10) Criminal confinement (IC 35-42-3-3) within the past five (5)  
 17 years.
- 18 (11) A felony sex offense under IC 35-42-4.
- 19 (12) Carjacking (IC 35-42-5-2) within the past five (5) years.
- 20 (13) Arson (IC 35-43-1-1) within the past five (5) years.
- 21 (14) Incest (IC 35-46-1-3).
- 22 (15) Neglect of a dependent (IC 35-46-1-4(a)(1) and  
 23 IC 35-46-1-4(a)(2)).
- 24 (16) Child selling (IC 35-46-1-4(d)).
- 25 (17) A felony involving a weapon under IC 35-47 or IC 35-47.5  
 26 within the past five (5) years.
- 27 (18) A felony relating to controlled substances under IC 35-48-4  
 28 within the past five (5) years.
- 29 (19) An offense relating to material or a performance that is  
 30 harmful to minors or obscene under IC 35-49-3.
- 31 **(20) A felony under IC 9-30-5.**
- 32 ~~(20)~~ **(21)** A felony that is substantially equivalent to a felony  
 33 listed in subdivisions (1) through ~~(19)~~ **(20)** for which the  
 34 conviction was entered in another state.
- 35 (b) The department may deny a license to an applicant who:  
 36 (1) has been convicted of a felony that is not listed in subsection  
 37 (a); or  
 38 (2) has had a juvenile adjudication for an act listed in subsection  
 39 (a) that, if committed by an adult, would be a felony.
- 40 (c) The department shall send written notice by certified mail that  
 41 the application has been denied and give the reasons for the denial.
- 42 (d) An administrative hearing concerning the denial of a license

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1 shall be provided upon written request by the applicant. The request  
 2 must be made not more than thirty (30) days after receiving the written  
 3 notice under subsection (c).

4 ~~(e) An administrative hearing shall be held not more than sixty (60)~~  
 5 ~~days after receiving a written request.~~

6 ~~(f) (e) An administrative hearing shall be held in accordance with~~  
 7 ~~IC 4-21.5-3.~~

8 ~~(g) The department shall issue a decision not more than sixty (60)~~  
 9 ~~days after the conclusion of a hearing.~~

10 SECTION 111. IC 31-27-4-16, AS ADDED BY P.L.146-2006,  
 11 SECTION 31, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 12 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 16. (a) A license for a foster family home ~~expires~~  
 13 **is valid for** four (4) years **after from** the date of issuance, unless the  
 14 license is revoked ~~modified to a probationary status~~; or voluntarily  
 15 returned.

16 (b) A license issued under this chapter:

17 (1) is not transferable;

18 (2) applies only to the licensee and the location stated in the  
 19 application; and

20 (3) remains the property of the department.

21 (c) A foster family home shall have the foster family home's license  
 22 available for inspection.

23 ~~(d) If a licensee submits a timely application for renewal; To extend~~  
 24 **a license an additional four (4) years, the home must apply for**  
 25 **relicensure.** The current license shall remain in effect **during the**  
 26 **relicensure process** until the department issues a license or denies the  
 27 application.

28 SECTION 112. IC 31-27-4-23, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
 29 SECTION 273, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 30 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 23. ~~(a)~~ An administrative hearing  
 31 concerning the decision of the department to impose a sanction under  
 32 this chapter shall be provided upon a written request by the licensee.  
 33 The request must be made not more than thirty (30) calendar days after  
 34 the licensee receives notice under section 22 of this chapter. The  
 35 written request must be made separately from an informal meeting  
 36 request made under section 22 of this chapter.

37 ~~(b) An administrative hearing shall be held not more than sixty (60)~~  
 38 ~~days after the department receives a written request under subsection~~  
 39 ~~(a).~~

40 SECTION 113. IC 31-27-4-25 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
 41 1, 2012]. Sec. 25: ~~The department shall issue a decision not more than~~  
 42 ~~sixty (60) days after the conclusion of a hearing.~~



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1 SECTION 114. IC 31-27-4-31 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
2 1, 2012]. ~~Sec. 31. A final decision of the department made after a  
3 hearing is subject to judicial review under IC 4-21.5-5.~~

4 SECTION 115. IC 31-27-4-33, AS AMENDED BY P.L.162-2011,  
5 SECTION 33, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
6 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 33. (a) A licensee shall operate a foster family  
7 home in compliance with the rules established under this article and is  
8 subject to the disciplinary sanctions under subsection (b) if the  
9 department finds that the licensee has violated this article or a rule  
10 adopted under this article.

11 (b) After complying with the procedural provisions in sections 22  
12 through ~~25~~ 24 of this chapter, the department may revoke the license  
13 when the department finds that a licensee has committed a violation  
14 under subsection (a). However, the department shall permanently  
15 revoke the license of a licensee who has been convicted of any of the  
16 felonies described in section 13(a) of this chapter. The department may  
17 permanently revoke the license of a person who has been convicted of  
18 a felony that is not described in section 13(a) of this chapter **and for**  
19 **other reasons set forth in rules adopted by the department.**

20 SECTION 116. IC 31-27-4-34, AS AMENDED BY P.L.1-2007,  
21 SECTION 203, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
22 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 34. (a) The department shall  
23 investigate a report of an unlicensed foster family home and report the  
24 department's findings to the attorney general and to the ~~county~~ **local**  
25 office and the prosecuting attorney in the county where the foster  
26 family home is located.

27 (b) The attorney general or the department may do the following:

28 (1) Seek the issuance of a search warrant to assist in the  
29 investigation.

30 (2) File an action for injunctive relief.

31 (3) Seek in a civil action a civil penalty not to exceed one hundred  
32 dollars (\$100) a day for each day a foster family home is  
33 operating without a license required under this article.

34 (c) The civil penalties collected under this section shall be deposited  
35 in the department of child services child care fund established by  
36 IC 31-25-2-16.

37 SECTION 117. IC 31-27-5-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.162-2011,  
38 SECTION 34, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
39 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 4. (a) An applicant must apply for a group home  
40 license on forms provided by the department.

41 (b) An applicant must submit the required information as part of the  
42 application.

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1 (c) An applicant must submit with the application a statement  
2 attesting the following:

3 (1) ~~That~~ **Whether** the applicant has ~~not~~ been convicted of:

4 (A) a felony; or

5 (B) a misdemeanor relating to the health and safety of  
6 children.

7 (2) ~~That~~ **Whether** the applicant has ~~not~~ been charged with:

8 (A) a felony; or

9 (B) a misdemeanor relating to the health and safety of  
10 children;

11 during the pendency of the application.

12 (d) The department on behalf of an applicant, or, at the discretion of  
13 the department, an applicant, shall conduct a criminal history check of  
14 the following:

15 (1) Each individual who is an applicant.

16 (2) The director or manager of a facility where children will be  
17 placed.

18 (3) An employee or a volunteer of the applicant who has or will  
19 have direct contact on a regular and continuing basis with a child  
20 who is or will be placed in a facility operated by the applicant.

21 (e) If the applicant conducts a criminal history check under  
22 subsection (d), the applicant shall:

23 (1) maintain records of the information it receives concerning  
24 each individual who is the subject of a criminal history check; and

25 (2) submit to the department a copy of the information the  
26 applicant receives concerning each person described in subsection  
27 (d)(1) through (d)(3).

28 (f) If the department conducts a criminal history check on behalf of  
29 an applicant under subsection (d), the department shall:

30 (1) determine whether the subject of a national fingerprint based  
31 criminal history check has a record of a:

32 (A) conviction for a felony;

33 (B) conviction for a misdemeanor relating to the health and  
34 safety of a child; or

35 (C) juvenile adjudication for an act listed in IC 31-27-4-13(a)  
36 that, if committed by an adult, would be a felony;

37 (2) notify the applicant of the determination under subdivision (1)  
38 without identifying a specific offense or other identifying  
39 information concerning a conviction or juvenile adjudication  
40 contained in the national criminal history record information;

41 (3) submit to the applicant a copy of any state limited criminal  
42 history report that the department receives on behalf of any person

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1 described in subsection (d); and

2 (4) maintain a record of every report and all information it  
3 receives concerning a person described in subsection (d).

4 (g) Except as provided in subsection (h), a criminal history check  
5 described in subsection (d) is required only at the time an application for  
6 a new license or the renewal of an existing license is submitted.

7 (h) A criminal history check of a person described in subsection  
8 (d)(2) or (d)(3) must be completed on or before the date on which the  
9 subject of the check is employed or assigned as a volunteer **or has**  
10 **direct contact on a regular and continuing basis with a child who**  
11 **is or will be placed in a facility operated by an applicant. However,**  
12 **a fingerprint based criminal history background check under**  
13 **IC 31-9-2-22.5(1)(B) for a person described in subsection (d) must be**  
14 **completed not later than the conclusion of the first ninety (90) days of**  
15 **employment in or assignment of a volunteer to a position described in**  
16 **subsection (d). If a person described in this subsection has been the**  
17 **subject of a criminal history check (as described in IC 31-9-2-22.5) that**  
18 **was conducted not more than one (1) year before the date the license**  
19 **application is submitted to the department, a new criminal history**  
20 **check of that person is not required.**

21 (i) An applicant or licensee may provisionally employ an individual  
22 or assign a volunteer described in subsection (d)(3) for whom a  
23 criminal history check is required during the period after the process of  
24 requesting fingerprint based criminal history background check  
25 information has been initiated by or on behalf of the applicant or  
26 licensee but before the determination is obtained by or communicated  
27 to the applicant or licensee. If the determination is not received within  
28 ninety (90) days after the effective date of hire or volunteer assignment,  
29 the employee or volunteer relationship must be terminated or  
30 suspended until a determination is received. An employee or volunteer  
31 whose determination has not yet been received may not have direct  
32 contact with a child who is or will be placed at a facility operated by  
33 the applicant or licensee unless the direct contact occurs only in the  
34 presence of a volunteer or employee of the applicant or licensee who  
35 has been the subject of a completed and approved criminal history  
36 check. In determining whether to provisionally hire or assign as a  
37 volunteer an individual described in subsection (d)(3), the applicant or  
38 licensee shall consider the following:

39 (1) The training time required by an employee or a volunteer.

40 (2) The safety and security of the children under the supervision  
41 of the applicant or licensee.

42 (3) The safety and security of the other staff and volunteers



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1 working under the supervision of the applicant or licensee.

2 ~~(4) The staffing concerns of the applicant or licensee.~~

3 ~~(5) Any other factor relating to the safety and security of the~~  
4 ~~applicant's or licensee's operations.~~

5 **(i) The applicant is responsible for any fees associated with a**  
6 **criminal history check.**

7 (j) The department shall, at the applicant's request, inform the  
8 applicant as to whether the department has or does not have a record of  
9 the person who is the subject of a criminal history ~~background~~ check  
10 and whether the department has identified the person as an alleged  
11 perpetrator of abuse or neglect. The department may not provide to the  
12 applicant any details or personally identifying information contained  
13 in any child protective services investigation report.

14 (k) A person who is the subject of a criminal history check  
15 conducted in accordance with this section may request the state police  
16 department to provide the person with a copy of any state or national  
17 criminal history report concerning the person.

18 SECTION 118. IC 31-27-5-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.162-2011,  
19 SECTION 35, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
20 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 6. (a) The following constitute sufficient grounds  
21 for a denial of a license application:

22 (1) A determination by the department of child abuse or neglect  
23 by:

24 (A) the applicant; or

25 (B) an employee or a volunteer of the applicant who has direct  
26 contact, on a regular and continuous basis, with children who  
27 are under the direct supervision of the applicant.

28 (2) A criminal conviction of the applicant, or the director or  
29 manager of a facility where children will be placed by the  
30 applicant, for any of the following:

31 (A) A felony.

32 (B) A misdemeanor related to the health and safety of a child.

33 (C) A misdemeanor for operating a child caring institution,  
34 foster family home, group home, or child placing agency  
35 without a license under this article (or IC 12-17.4 before its  
36 repeal).

37 (D) A misdemeanor for operating a child care center or child  
38 care home without a license under IC 12-17.2.

39 (3) A determination by the department that the applicant made  
40 false statements in the applicant's application for licensure.

41 (4) A determination by the department that the applicant made  
42 false statements in the records required by the department.

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- 1 (5) A determination by the department that:
- 2 (A) the applicant; or
- 3 (B) an employee or a volunteer of the applicant who has direct
- 4 contact, on a regular and continuous basis, with children who
- 5 are under the direct supervision of the applicant;
- 6 previously operated a home or facility without a license required
- 7 under any applicable provision of this article (or IC 12-17.4
- 8 before its repeal) or IC 12-17.2.
- 9 (6) A juvenile adjudication of the applicant for an act listed in
- 10 IC 31-27-4-13(a) that, if committed by an adult, would be a
- 11 felony.
- 12 (b) An application for a license may also be denied if an employee
- 13 or volunteer of the applicant who has direct contact on a regular and
- 14 continuous basis with children who are under the direct supervision of
- 15 the applicant has had any of the following:
- 16 (1) A conviction of a felony described in IC 31-27-4-13(a).
- 17 (2) A conviction of any other felony or a misdemeanor relating to
- 18 the health and safety of a child, unless the applicant is granted a
- 19 waiver by the department to employ or assign the person as a
- 20 volunteer in a position described in this subsection.
- 21 (3) A juvenile adjudication for an act listed in IC 31-27-4-13(a)
- 22 that, if committed by an adult, would be a felony, unless the
- 23 applicant is granted a waiver by the department to employ or
- 24 assign the person as a volunteer in a position described in this
- 25 subsection.
- 26 (c) In determining whether to grant a waiver under subsection (b),
- 27 the department shall consider the following factors:
- 28 (1) The length of time that has passed since the disqualifying
- 29 conviction.
- 30 (2) The severity, nature, and circumstances of the offense.
- 31 (3) Evidence of rehabilitation.
- 32 (4) The duties and qualifications required for the proposed
- 33 employment positions or volunteer assignment.
- 34 (d) Notwithstanding subsection (a) or (b), if:
- 35 (1) a license application could be denied due to a criminal
- 36 conviction of, or a determination of child abuse or neglect by, an
- 37 employee or a volunteer of the applicant; and
- 38 (2) the department determines that the employee or volunteer has
- 39 been dismissed **before the employee or volunteer has direct**
- 40 **contact on a regular and continuing basis with a child who is**
- 41 **or will be placed in a facility** by the applicant;
- 42 the criminal conviction of, or determination of child abuse or neglect

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1 by, the former employee or former volunteer does not constitute a  
2 sufficient basis for the denial of a license application.

3 (e) The department may adopt rules to implement this section.

4 SECTION 119. IC 31-27-5-12, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
5 SECTION 273, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
6 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 12. (a) The department shall deny  
7 a license when an applicant fails to meet the requirements for a license.

8 (b) The department shall send the applicant written notice by  
9 certified mail that the application has been denied and give the reasons  
10 for the denial.

11 (c) An administrative hearing concerning the denial of a license  
12 shall be provided upon written request by the applicant. The request  
13 must be made not more than thirty (30) days after the applicant  
14 receives the written notice under subsection (b).

15 ~~(d) An administrative hearing shall be held not more than sixty (60)~~  
16 ~~days after the department receives a written request under subsection~~  
17 ~~(c):~~

18 ~~(e)~~ (d) An administrative hearing shall be held in accordance with  
19 IC 4-21.5-3.

20 ~~(f) The department shall issue a decision not more than sixty (60)~~  
21 ~~days after the conclusion of a hearing under this section:~~

22 SECTION 120. IC 31-27-5-14, AS ADDED BY P.L.146-2006,  
23 SECTION 35, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
24 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 14. (a) A license for a group home expires four (4)  
25 years after the date of issuance, unless the license is revoked ~~modified~~  
26 ~~to a probationary status~~, or voluntarily returned.

27 (b) A license issued under this chapter:

28 (1) is not transferable;

29 (2) applies only to the licensee and the location stated in the  
30 application; and

31 (3) remains the property of the department.

32 (c) A current license shall be publicly displayed.

33 (d) If a licensee submits a timely application for renewal, the current  
34 license remains in effect until the department issues a license or denies  
35 the application.

36 SECTION 121. IC 31-27-5-17, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
37 SECTION 273, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
38 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 17. A licensee shall cooperate with  
39 the department, ~~and~~ the state fire marshal, ~~and any other state agency~~  
40 **working on behalf of the department** in carrying out the activities  
41 required by section 16 of this chapter, including permitting the  
42 department, ~~and~~ the state fire marshal, ~~or any other state agency~~



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1 **working on behalf of the department** to conduct announced or  
2 unannounced inspections.

3 SECTION 122. IC 31-27-5-20, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
4 SECTION 273, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
5 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 20. (a) An administrative hearing  
6 concerning the decision of the department to impose a sanction under  
7 this chapter shall be provided upon a written request by the licensee.  
8 The request must be made not more than thirty (30) days after the  
9 licensee receives notice under section 19 of this chapter. The written  
10 request must be made separately from an informal meeting request  
11 made under section 19 of this chapter.

12 (b) ~~An administrative hearing shall be held not more than sixty (60)~~  
13 ~~days after the department receives a written request under subsection~~  
14 ~~(a).~~

15 SECTION 123. IC 31-27-5-22 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
16 1, 2012]. ~~Sec. 22: The department shall issue a decision not more than~~  
17 ~~sixty (60) days after the conclusion of a hearing under section 20 of the~~  
18 ~~chapter.~~

19 SECTION 124. IC 31-27-5-28 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
20 1, 2012]. ~~Sec. 28: A final decision of the department made after a~~  
21 ~~hearing is subject to judicial review under IC 4-21.5-5.~~

22 SECTION 125. IC 31-27-5-29, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
23 SECTION 273, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
24 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 29. (a) The department shall  
25 investigate a report of a licensed group home's noncompliance with this  
26 article and the rules adopted under this article. If there is reasonable  
27 cause to believe that noncompliance with this article and rules adopted  
28 under this article creates an imminent danger of serious bodily injury  
29 to a child or an imminent danger to the health of a child, the  
30 department shall report its findings to the attorney general and to the  
31 ~~county~~ **local** office and the prosecuting attorney in the county where the  
32 group home is located.

33 (b) The attorney general or the department may do the following:

34 (1) Seek the issuance of a search warrant to assist in the  
35 investigation.

36 (2) File an action for injunctive relief to stop the operation of a  
37 group home if there is reasonable cause to believe that the group  
38 home's noncompliance with this article and the rules adopted  
39 under this article creates an imminent danger of serious bodily  
40 injury to a child or an imminent danger to the health of a child.

41 (c) The department may require a plan of corrective action for  
42 emergency protection of children described in subsection (b).



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1 (d) The department may provide for the removal of children from a  
 2 group home described in subsection (b).  
 3 (e) An opportunity for an informal meeting with the department  
 4 shall be available after injunctive relief is ordered under subsection  
 5 (b)(2).  
 6 SECTION 126. IC 31-27-5-30, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
 7 SECTION 273, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 8 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 30. A court order granted under  
 9 section 29(b)(2) of this chapter expires upon the later of the following:  
 10 (1) Sixty (60) days after the order is issued.  
 11 (2) When a final departmental decision is issued under sections  
 12 20 through ~~22~~ 21 of this chapter if notice of an enforcement  
 13 action is issued under section 19 of this chapter.  
 14 SECTION 127. IC 31-27-5-32, AS ADDED BY P.L.146-2006,  
 15 SECTION 38, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 16 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 32. (a) A licensee shall operate a group home in  
 17 compliance with the rules established under this article and is subject  
 18 to the disciplinary sanctions under subsection (b) if the department  
 19 finds that the licensee has violated this article or a rule adopted under  
 20 this article.  
 21 (b) After complying with the procedural provisions in sections 19  
 22 through ~~22~~ 21 of this chapter, the department may revoke the license  
 23 when the department finds that a licensee has committed a violation  
 24 under subsection (a).  
 25 SECTION 128. IC 31-27-5-33, AS AMENDED BY P.L.1-2007,  
 26 SECTION 204, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 27 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 33. (a) The department shall  
 28 investigate a report of an unlicensed group home and report the  
 29 department's findings to the attorney general and to the ~~county~~ local  
 30 office and the prosecuting attorney in the county where the group home  
 31 is located.  
 32 (b) The attorney general or the department may do the following:  
 33 (1) Seek the issuance of a search warrant to assist in the  
 34 investigation.  
 35 (2) File an action for injunctive relief to stop the operation of a  
 36 group home if there is reasonable cause to believe that the group  
 37 home is operating without a license required under this article.  
 38 (3) Seek in a civil action a civil penalty not to exceed one hundred  
 39 dollars (\$100) a day for each day a group home is operating  
 40 without a license required under this article.  
 41 (c) An opportunity for an informal meeting with the department  
 42 shall be available after injunctive relief is ordered under subsection

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- 1 (b)(2).
- 2 (d) The civil penalties collected under this section shall be deposited
- 3 in the department of child services child care fund established by
- 4 IC 31-25-2-16.
- 5 SECTION 129. IC 31-27-6-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.162-2011,
- 6 SECTION 37, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 7 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 2. (a) An applicant must apply for a child placing
- 8 agency license on forms provided by the department.
- 9 (b) An applicant must submit the required information as part of the
- 10 application.
- 11 (c) The applicant must submit with the application a statement
- 12 attesting the following:
- 13 (1) ~~That~~ **Whether** the applicant has ~~not~~ been convicted of:
- 14 (A) a felony; or
- 15 (B) a misdemeanor relating to the health and safety of
- 16 children.
- 17 (2) ~~That~~ **Whether** the applicant has ~~not~~ been charged with:
- 18 (A) a felony; or
- 19 (B) a misdemeanor relating to the health and safety of
- 20 children;
- 21 during the pendency of the application.
- 22 (d) The department on behalf of an applicant, or, at the discretion of
- 23 the department, an applicant, shall conduct a criminal history check of
- 24 the following:
- 25 (1) Each individual who is an applicant.
- 26 (2) The director or manager of a facility where children will be
- 27 placed.
- 28 (3) An employee or a volunteer of the applicant who has or will
- 29 have direct contact on a regular and continuing basis with a child
- 30 who is or will be placed in a facility operated by the applicant.
- 31 (e) If the applicant conducts a criminal history check under
- 32 subsection (d), the applicant shall:
- 33 (1) maintain records of the information it receives concerning
- 34 each individual who is the subject of a criminal history check; and
- 35 (2) submit to the department a copy of the information it receives
- 36 concerning each person described in subsection (d)(1) through
- 37 (d)(3).
- 38 (f) If the department conducts a criminal history check on behalf of
- 39 an applicant under subsection (d), the department shall:
- 40 (1) determine whether the subject of a national fingerprint based
- 41 criminal history check has a record of a:
- 42 (A) conviction for a felony;

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- 1 (B) conviction for a misdemeanor relating to the health and  
 2 safety of a child; or  
 3 (C) juvenile adjudication for an act listed in IC 31-27-4-13(a)  
 4 that, if committed by an adult, would be a felony;
- 5 (2) notify the applicant of the determination under subdivision (1)  
 6 without identifying a specific offense or other identifying  
 7 information concerning a conviction or juvenile adjudication  
 8 contained in the national criminal history record information;
- 9 (3) submit to the applicant a copy of any state limited criminal  
 10 history report that the department receives on behalf of any person  
 11 described in subsection (d); and  
 12 (4) maintain a record of every report and all information the  
 13 department receives concerning a person described in subsection  
 14 (d).
- 15 (g) Except as provided in subsection (h), a criminal history check  
 16 described in subsection (d) is required only at the time an application  
 17 for a new license or the renewal of an existing license is submitted.
- 18 (h) A criminal history ~~background~~ check of a person described in  
 19 subsection (d)(2) or (d)(3) must be completed on or before the date on  
 20 which the subject of the check is employed or assigned as a volunteer,  
 21 **or has direct contact on a regular and continuing basis with a child**  
 22 **who is or will be placed in a facility operated by an applicant.**  
 23 ~~However, a fingerprint based criminal history background check under~~  
 24 ~~IC 31-9-2-22.5(1)(B) for a person described in subsection (d)(3) must~~  
 25 ~~be completed not later than the conclusion of the first ninety (90) days~~  
 26 ~~of employment in or assignment of a volunteer to a position described~~  
 27 ~~in subsection (d)(3). If a person described in this subsection has been~~  
 28 ~~the subject of a criminal history background check (as described in~~  
 29 ~~IC 31-9-2-22.5) that was conducted not more than one (1) year before~~  
 30 ~~the date the license application is submitted to the department, a new~~  
 31 ~~criminal history check of that person is not required.~~
- 32 (i) An applicant or a licensee may provisionally employ a  
 33 individual or assign a volunteer described in subsection (d)(3) for  
 34 whom a criminal history background check is required during the  
 35 period after the process of requesting fingerprint based criminal history  
 36 background check information has been initiated by or on behalf of the  
 37 applicant or licensee but before the determination is obtained by or  
 38 communicated to the applicant or licensee. If the determination is not  
 39 received within ninety (90) days after the effective date of hire or  
 40 volunteer assignment, the employee or volunteer relationship must be  
 41 terminated or suspended until a determination is received. An  
 42 employee or a volunteer whose determination has not yet been received

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1 may not have direct contact with a child who is or will be placed at a  
 2 facility operated by the applicant or licensee unless the direct contact  
 3 occurs only in the presence of a volunteer or an employee of the  
 4 applicant or licensee who has been the subject of a completed and  
 5 approved criminal history background check. In determining whether  
 6 to provisionally hire or assign as a volunteer an individual described in  
 7 subsection (d)(3), the applicant or licensee shall consider the following:

- 8 (1) The training time required by an employee or a volunteer.
- 9 (2) The safety and security of the children under the supervision  
 10 of the applicant or licensee.
- 11 (3) The safety and security of the other staff and volunteers  
 12 working under the supervision of the applicant or licensee.
- 13 (4) The staffing concerns of the applicant or licensee.
- 14 (5) Any other factor relating to the safety and security of the  
 15 applicant's or licensee's operations.

16 **(i) The applicant or facility is responsible for any fees associated**  
 17 **with a criminal history check.**

18 (j) The department shall, at the applicant's request, inform the  
 19 applicant whether the department has or does not have a record of the  
 20 person who is the subject of a criminal history ~~background~~ check and  
 21 if the department has identified the person as an alleged perpetrator of  
 22 abuse or neglect. The department may not provide to the applicant any  
 23 details or personally identifying information contained in any child  
 24 protective investigation report.

25 (k) A person who is the subject of a criminal history check  
 26 conducted in accordance with this section may request the state police  
 27 department to provide the person with a copy of any state or national  
 28 criminal history report concerning the person.

29 SECTION 130. IC 31-27-6-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.162-2011,  
 30 SECTION 38, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 31 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 3. (a) The following constitute sufficient grounds  
 32 for denial of a license application:

- 33 (1) A determination by the department of child abuse or neglect  
 34 by:
  - 35 (A) the applicant; or
  - 36 (B) an employee or a volunteer of the applicant who has direct  
 37 contact, on a regular and continuous basis, with children who  
 38 are under the direct supervision of the applicant.
- 39 (2) A criminal conviction of the applicant, or the director or  
 40 manager of a facility where children will be placed by the  
 41 licensee, for any of the following:
  - 42 (A) A felony.



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- 1 (B) A misdemeanor related to the health and safety of a child.
- 2 (C) A misdemeanor for operating a child caring institution,
- 3 foster family home, group home, or child placing agency
- 4 without a license under this article (or IC 12-17.4 before its
- 5 repeal).
- 6 (D) A misdemeanor for operating a child care center or child
- 7 care home without a license under IC 12-17.2.
- 8 (3) A determination by the department that the applicant made
- 9 false statements in the applicant's application for licensure.
- 10 (4) A determination by the department that the applicant made
- 11 false statements in the records required by the department.
- 12 (5) A determination by the department that:
- 13 (A) the applicant; or
- 14 (B) an employee or a volunteer of the applicant who has direct
- 15 contact, on a regular and continuous basis, with children who
- 16 are under the direct supervision of the applicant;
- 17 previously operated a home or facility without a license required
- 18 under any applicable provision of this article (or IC 12-17.4
- 19 before its repeal) or IC 12-17.2.
- 20 (6) A juvenile adjudication of the applicant for an act listed in
- 21 IC 31-27-4-13(a) that, if committed by an adult, would be a
- 22 felony.
- 23 (b) An application for a license may also be denied if an employee
- 24 or volunteer of the applicant who has direct contact on a regular and
- 25 continuous basis with children who are under the direct supervision of
- 26 the applicant has had any of the following:
- 27 (1) A conviction of a felony described in IC 31-27-4-13(a).
- 28 (2) A conviction of any other felony or a misdemeanor relating to
- 29 the health and safety of a child, unless the applicant is granted a
- 30 waiver by the department to employ or assign the person as a
- 31 volunteer in a position described in this subsection.
- 32 (3) A juvenile adjudication for an act listed in IC 31-27-4-13(a)
- 33 that, if committed by an adult, would be a felony, unless the
- 34 applicant is granted a waiver by the department to employ or
- 35 assign the person as a volunteer in a position described in this
- 36 subsection.
- 37 (c) In determining whether to grant a waiver under subsection (b),
- 38 the department shall consider the following factors:
- 39 (1) The length of time that has passed since the disqualifying
- 40 conviction.
- 41 (2) The severity, nature, and circumstances of the offense.
- 42 (3) Evidence of rehabilitation.

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1 (4) The duties and qualifications required for the proposed  
 2 employment positions or volunteer assignment.  
 3 (d) Notwithstanding subsection (a) or (b), if:  
 4 (1) a license application could be denied due to a criminal  
 5 conviction of, or a determination of child abuse or neglect by, an  
 6 employee or a volunteer of the applicant; and  
 7 (2) the department determines that the employee or volunteer has  
 8 been dismissed **before the employee or volunteer has direct**  
 9 **contact on a regular and continuing basis with a child who is**  
 10 **or will be placed in a facility operated** by the applicant;  
 11 the criminal conviction of, or determination of child abuse or neglect  
 12 by, the former employee or former volunteer does not constitute a  
 13 sufficient basis for the denial of a license application.

14 (e) The department may adopt rules to implement this section.  
 15 SECTION 131. IC 31-27-6-8, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
 16 SECTION 273, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 17 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 8. (a) The department shall deny a  
 18 license when an applicant fails to meet the requirements for a license.

19 (b) If the department denies an applicant a license under subsection  
 20 (a), the department shall send the applicant written notice by certified  
 21 mail that the application has been denied and give the reasons for the  
 22 denial.

23 (c) An administrative hearing concerning the denial of a license  
 24 shall be provided upon written request by the applicant. The request  
 25 must be made not more than thirty (30) days after the applicant  
 26 receives the written notice under subsection (b).

27 ~~(d) An administrative hearing shall be held not more than sixty (60)~~  
 28 ~~days after the department receives a written request under subsection~~  
 29 ~~(c):~~

30 ~~(e) (d)~~ An administrative hearing shall be held in accordance with  
 31 IC 4-21.5-3.

32 ~~(f) The department shall issue a decision not more than sixty (60)~~  
 33 ~~days after the conclusion of a hearing under this section:~~

34 SECTION 132. IC 31-27-6-10, AS ADDED BY P.L.146-2006,  
 35 SECTION 39, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 36 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 10. (a) A license for a child placing agency  
 37 expires four (4) years after the date of issuance, unless the license is  
 38 revoked ~~modified to a probationary status~~, or voluntarily returned.

39 (b) A license issued under this chapter:  
 40 (1) is not transferable;  
 41 (2) applies only to the licensee and the location stated in the  
 42 application; and

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1 (3) remains the property of the department.  
 2 (c) A child placing agency shall have the child placing agency's  
 3 license available for inspection.  
 4 (d) If a licensee submits a timely application for renewal, the current  
 5 license shall remain in effect until the department issues a license or  
 6 denies the application.  
 7 SECTION 133. IC 31-27-6-14, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
 8 SECTION 273, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 9 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 14. The licensee shall cooperate  
 10 with the department **and any other state agency working on behalf**  
 11 **of the department** in carrying out the activities required by sections 12  
 12 through 13 of this chapter, including permitting the department to  
 13 conduct announced or unannounced inspections.  
 14 SECTION 134. IC 31-27-6-17, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
 15 SECTION 273, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 16 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 17. ~~(a)~~ An administrative hearing  
 17 concerning the decision of the department to impose a sanction under  
 18 this chapter shall be provided upon a written request by the licensee.  
 19 The request must be made not more than thirty (30) days after the  
 20 licensee receives notice under section 16 of this chapter. The written  
 21 request must be made separately from an informal meeting request  
 22 made under section 16 of this chapter.  
 23 ~~(b) An administrative hearing shall be held not more than sixty (60)~~  
 24 ~~days after the department receives a written request under subsection~~  
 25 ~~(a):~~  
 26 SECTION 135. IC 31-27-6-19 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
 27 1, 2012]. ~~Sec. 19: The department shall issue a decision not more than~~  
 28 ~~sixty (60) days after the conclusion of a hearing under section 17 of this~~  
 29 ~~chapter.~~  
 30 SECTION 136. IC 31-27-6-25 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
 31 1, 2012]. ~~Sec. 25: A final decision of the department made after a~~  
 32 ~~hearing is subject to judicial review under IC 4-21.5-5.~~  
 33 SECTION 137. IC 31-27-6-26, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
 34 SECTION 273, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 35 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 26. (a) The department shall  
 36 investigate a report of a licensed child placing agency's noncompliance  
 37 with this article and the rules adopted under this article. If there is  
 38 reasonable cause to believe that a licensee's noncompliance with this  
 39 article and rules adopted under this article creates an imminent danger  
 40 of serious bodily injury to a child or an imminent danger to the health  
 41 of a child, ~~and the department shall~~ report the department's findings  
 42 to the attorney general and to the ~~county~~ **local** office and the

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1 prosecuting attorney in the county where the child placing agency is  
2 located.

- 3 (b) The attorney general or the department may do the following:
- 4 (1) Seek the issuance of a search warrant to assist in the
- 5 investigation.
- 6 (2) File an action for injunctive relief to stop the operation of a
- 7 child placing agency if there is reasonable cause to believe that a
- 8 licensee's noncompliance with this article and the rules adopted
- 9 under this article creates an imminent danger of serious bodily
- 10 injury to a child or an imminent danger to the health of a child.

11 (c) The department may require a plan of corrective action,  
12 **including a hold on new placements**, for emergency protection of the  
13 children described in subsection (b).

14 (d) An opportunity for an informal meeting with the department  
15 shall be available after injunctive relief is ordered under subsection  
16 (b)(2).

17 SECTION 138. IC 31-27-6-27, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
18 SECTION 273, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
19 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 27. A court order granted under  
20 section 26(b)(2) of this chapter expires upon the later of the following:

- 21 (1) Sixty (60) days after the order is issued.
- 22 (2) When a final department decision is issued under sections 16
- 23 through ~~19~~ **18** of this chapter if notice of an enforcement action
- 24 is issued under section 16 of this chapter.

25 SECTION 139. IC 31-27-6-29, AS ADDED BY P.L.146-2006,  
26 SECTION 42, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
27 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 29. (a) A licensee shall operate a child placing  
28 agency in compliance with the rules established under this article and  
29 is subject to the disciplinary sanctions under subsection (b) if the  
30 department finds that the licensee has violated this article or a rule  
31 adopted under this article.

32 (b) After complying with the procedural provisions in sections 16  
33 through ~~19~~ **18** of this chapter, the department may revoke the license  
34 when the department finds that a licensee has committed a violation  
35 under subsection (a).

36 SECTION 140. IC 31-27-6-30, AS AMENDED BY P.L.1-2007,  
37 SECTION 205, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
38 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 30. (a) The department shall  
39 investigate a report of an unlicensed child placing agency and report  
40 the department's findings to the attorney general and to the **county local**  
41 office and the prosecuting attorney in the county where the child  
42 placing agency is located.

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- 1 (b) The attorney general or the department may do the following:
- 2 (1) Seek the issuance of a search warrant to assist in the
- 3 investigation.
- 4 (2) File an action for injunctive relief to stop the operation of a
- 5 child placing agency if there is reasonable cause to believe that
- 6 the child placing agency is operating without a license required
- 7 under this article.
- 8 (3) Seek in a civil action a civil penalty not to exceed one hundred
- 9 dollars (\$100) a day for each day a child placing agency is
- 10 operating without a license required under this article.
- 11 (c) An opportunity for an informal meeting with the department
- 12 shall be available after injunctive relief is ordered under subsection
- 13 (b)(2).
- 14 (d) The civil penalties collected under this section shall be deposited
- 15 in the department of child services child care fund, established by
- 16 IC 31-25-2-16.

17 SECTION 141. IC 31-28-1-1, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
 18 SECTION 274, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 19 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 1. This chapter applies to children  
 20 who receive foster care that is funded by the department or a ~~county~~  
 21 **local** office.

22 SECTION 142. IC 31-28-1-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
 23 SECTION 274, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 24 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 3. The ~~county~~ **local** office of the  
 25 county in which a foster child resides shall maintain a health summary  
 26 record for the foster child. The provider that has provided ongoing care  
 27 to the child shall complete the record. The record must include the  
 28 following:

- 29 (1) A summary of health care provided to the child.
- 30 (2) Recommendations for future health care needs of the child.

31 SECTION 143. IC 31-28-1-4, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
 32 SECTION 274, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 33 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 4. The ~~county~~ **local** office shall  
 34 obtain the record from the provider required under section 3 of this  
 35 chapter when the child:

- 36 (1) is placed in foster care; and
- 37 (2) is returned to the natural parents, adopted, or placed in another  
 38 permanent plan.

39 SECTION 144. IC 31-28-2-1, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
 40 SECTION 274, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 41 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 1. This chapter applies to children  
 42 who receive foster care that is funded by the department or a ~~county~~

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1 **local** office.  
2 SECTION 145. IC 31-28-2-2, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
3 SECTION 274, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
4 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 2. (a) If medical care is provided to  
5 a child who receives foster care, the person who has custody of the  
6 child shall inform the provider that the provider is required to file a  
7 copy of:  
8 (1) the form provided under IC 31-28-3; and  
9 (2) the child's medical treatment record for the medical care;  
10 with the **county local** office in which the child resides.  
11 (b) The provider shall file the form and record with the **county local**  
12 office.  
13 SECTION 146. IC 31-28-2-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
14 SECTION 274, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
15 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 3. The **county local** office shall  
16 maintain the medical treatment records filed under section 2 of this  
17 chapter.  
18 SECTION 147. IC 31-28-2-4, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
19 SECTION 274, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
20 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 4. The **county local** office shall  
21 provide a copy of the medical treatment records filed under section 2  
22 of this chapter to the person who provides foster care to a child.  
23 SECTION 148. IC 31-28-3-1, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
24 SECTION 274, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
25 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 1. This chapter applies to children  
26 who receive foster care that is funded by the department or a **county**  
27 **local** office.  
28 SECTION 149. IC 31-28-3-2, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
29 SECTION 274, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
30 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 2. The department shall establish  
31 a medical passport program for children who receive foster care. Under  
32 the program, the department shall do the following:  
33 (1) Maintain a record of medical care provided to a foster child.  
34 (2) Facilitate a provider in providing appropriate care to a foster  
35 child.  
36 (3) Allow foster parents to authorize routine and emergency  
37 medical care to a foster child.  
38 (4) Provide forms for a provider to submit to the **county local**  
39 office under IC 31-28-2.  
40 SECTION 150. IC 31-28-3-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
41 SECTION 274, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
42 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 3. (a) The **county local** office shall

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1 issue the medical passport to a foster child when the child is placed in  
 2 foster care. The passport must remain with the child until the child is:  
 3 (1) returned to the natural parents;  
 4 (2) adopted; or  
 5 (3) placed in another permanent plan.

6 (b) When a child is placed under subsection (a)(1), (a)(2), or (a)(3),  
 7 the medical passport shall be returned to the **county local** office that  
 8 issued the passport.

9 SECTION 151. IC 31-28-5-1, AS ADDED BY P.L.133-2008,  
 10 SECTION 10, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 11 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 1. This chapter applies to:

- 12 (1) a child who receives foster care that is funded by the
- 13 department or a **county local** office; and
- 14 (2) a sibling of a child described in subdivision (1).

15 SECTION 152. IC 31-28-6-1, AS ADDED BY P.L.143-2008,  
 16 SECTION 12, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 17 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 1. Subject to IC 31-28-4-1.5, the interstate  
 18 compact for the placement of children is enacted into law under this  
 19 chapter and entered into with all other jurisdictions legally joining the  
 20 compact in a form consistent with the compact terms and provisions as  
 21 stated in this section in a form substantially as follows:

22 **ARTICLE 4. I. PURPOSE**

23 The purpose of this interstate compact for the placement of children  
 24 is to do the following:

- 25 (1) Provide a process through which children subject to this
- 26 compact are placed in safe and suitable homes in a timely manner.
- 27 (2) Facilitate ongoing supervision of a placement, the delivery of
- 28 services, and communication between the states.
- 29 (3) Provide operating procedures that will ensure that children are
- 30 placed in safe and suitable homes in a timely manner.
- 31 (4) Provide for the adoption and enforcement of administrative
- 32 rules implementing the provisions of this compact and regulating
- 33 the covered activities of the member states.
- 34 (5) Provide for uniform data collection and information sharing
- 35 between member states under this compact.
- 36 (6) Promote coordination between this compact, the Interstate
- 37 Compact for Juveniles, the Interstate Compact on Adoption and
- 38 Medical Assistance, and other compacts that affect the placement
- 39 of and that provide services to children otherwise subject to this
- 40 compact.
- 41 (7) Provide for a state's continuing legal jurisdiction and
- 42 responsibility for placement and care of a child that it would have

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1 had if the placement were intrastate.  
 2 (8) Provide for the promulgation of guidelines, in collaboration  
 3 with Indian tribes, for interstate cases involving Indian children  
 4 as is or may be permitted by federal law.

5 ARTICLE II. DEFINITIONS

6 The following definitions apply throughout this compact:

- 7 (1) "Approved placement" means the public child placing agency  
 8 in the receiving state has determined that the placement is both  
 9 safe and suitable for the child.  
 10 (2) "Assessment" means an evaluation of a prospective placement  
 11 by a public child placing agency in the receiving state to  
 12 determine whether the placement meets the individualized needs  
 13 of the child, including, **but not limited to**, the child's safety and  
 14 stability, health and well-being, and mental, emotional, and  
 15 physical development. An assessment is applicable ~~only~~ to a  
 16 placement by a public child placing agency.  
 17 (3) "Certification" means to attest, declare, or swear to before a  
 18 judge or notary public.  
 19 (4) "Child" means an individual who is less than eighteen (18)  
 20 years of age.  
 21 (5) "Default" means the failure of a member state to perform the  
 22 obligations or responsibilities imposed upon it by this compact,  
 23 ~~or by~~ the bylaws, or rules of the interstate commission.  
 24 (6) "Home study" means an evaluation of a home environment  
 25 that is conducted in accordance with the applicable requirements  
 26 of the state in which the home is located and that documents the  
 27 preparation and the suitability of the placement resource for  
 28 placement of a child in accordance with the laws and  
 29 requirements of the state in which the home is located.  
 30 (7) "Indian tribe" means any Indian tribe, band, nation, or other  
 31 organized group or community of Indians recognized as eligible  
 32 for services provided to Indians by the Secretary of the Interior  
 33 because of their status as Indians, including any Alaskan native  
 34 village as defined in section 3(c) of the Alaska Native Claims  
 35 Settlement Act, 43 U.S.C. 1602(c).  
 36 (8) "Interstate commission for the placement of children" means  
 37 the commission that is created under Article VIII of this compact  
 38 and that is generally referred to as "the interstate commission".  
 39 (9) "Jurisdiction" means the power and authority of a court to hear  
 40 and decide matters.  
 41 (10) "Legal risk adoption" means a placement made preliminary  
 42 to an adoption in which the prospective adoptive parents

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- 1 acknowledge in writing that a child can be ordered returned to the  
 2 sending state or the birth mother's state of residence, if different  
 3 from the sending state, and a final decree of adoption shall not be  
 4 entered in any jurisdiction until all required consents are obtained  
 5 or are dispensed with in accordance with applicable law.
- 6 (11) "Legal risk placement" means legal risk adoption.
- 7 (12) "Member state" means a state that has enacted this compact.
- 8 (13) "Noncustodial parent" means a person who, at the time of the  
 9 commencement of court proceedings in the sending state, does  
 10 not have sole legal custody of the child or has joint legal custody  
 11 of a child, and who is not the subject of allegations or findings of  
 12 child abuse or neglect.
- 13 (14) "Nonmember state" means a state that has not enacted this  
 14 compact.
- 15 (15) "Notice of residential placement" means information  
 16 regarding a placement into a residential facility that is provided  
 17 to the receiving state, including, but not limited to, the name of  
 18 the child, the date and place of birth of the child, the identity and  
 19 address of the parent or legal guardian, evidence of authority to  
 20 make the placement, and the name and address of the facility in  
 21 which the child will be placed. The term also includes  
 22 information regarding a discharge and any unauthorized absence  
 23 from the facility.
- 24 (16) "Placement" means the act by a public or private child  
 25 placing agency intended to arrange for the care or custody of a  
 26 child in another state.
- 27 (17) "Private child placing agency" means any private  
 28 corporation, agency, foundation, institution, or charitable  
 29 organization, or any private person or attorney, that facilitates,  
 30 causes, or is involved in the placement of a child from one (1)  
 31 state to another and that is not an instrumentality of the state or  
 32 acting under color of state law.
- 33 (18) "Provisional placement" means a determination made by the  
 34 public child placing agency in the receiving state that the  
 35 receiving state has determined that the proposed placement is safe  
 36 and suitable, and, to the extent allowable, the receiving state has  
 37 temporarily waived its standards or requirements otherwise  
 38 applicable to prospective foster or adoptive parents so as not to  
 39 delay the placement. Completion of the receiving state  
 40 requirements regarding training for prospective foster or adoptive  
 41 parents shall not delay an otherwise safe and suitable placement.
- 42 (19) "Public child placing agency" means any government child

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- 1 welfare agency or child protection agency, or a private entity  
 2 under contract with such an agency, regardless of whether the  
 3 agency or entity acts on behalf of a state, county, municipality, or  
 4 other governmental unit, that facilitates, causes, or is involved in  
 5 the placement of a child from one (1) state to another.  
 6 (20) "Receiving state" means the state to which a child is sent,  
 7 brought, or caused to be sent or brought.  
 8 (21) "Relative" means someone who is related to the child as a  
 9 parent, stepparent, sibling by half or whole blood or by adoption,  
 10 grandparent, aunt, uncle, or first cousin, or a nonrelative with  
 11 such significant ties to the child that they may be regarded as  
 12 relatives as determined by the court in the sending state.  
 13 (22) "Residential facility" means a facility providing a level of  
 14 care that is sufficient to substitute for parental responsibility or  
 15 foster care and is beyond what is needed for assessment or  
 16 treatment of an acute condition. For purposes of the compact,  
 17 residential facilities do not include institutions that are primarily  
 18 educational in character, hospitals, or other medical facilities.  
 19 (23) "Rule" means a written directive, mandate, standard, or  
 20 principle that is issued by the interstate commission and  
 21 promulgated under Article XI of this compact, that is of general  
 22 applicability, and that implements, interprets, or prescribes a  
 23 policy or provision of the compact. A rule has the force and effect  
 24 of an administrative rule in a member state, and includes the  
 25 amendment, repeal, or suspension of an existing rule.  
 26 (24) "Sending state" means the state from which the placement of  
 27 a child is initiated.  
 28 (25) "Service member's permanent duty station" means the  
 29 military installation where an active duty armed services member  
 30 is currently assigned and is physically located under competent  
 31 orders that do not specify the duty as temporary.  
 32 (26) "Service member's state of legal residence" means the state  
 33 in which the active duty armed services member is considered a  
 34 resident for tax and voting purposes.  
 35 (27) "State" means a state of the United States, the District of  
 36 Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin  
 37 Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Northern Marianas Islands,  
 38 **or and** any other territory of the United States.  
 39 (28) "State court" means a judicial body of a state that is vested by  
 40 law with responsibility for adjudicating cases involving abuse,  
 41 neglect, deprivation, delinquency, or status offenses of individuals  
 42 less than eighteen (18) years of age.

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1 (29) "Supervision" means monitoring provided by the receiving  
2 state once a child has been placed in a receiving state under this  
3 compact.

4 ARTICLE III. APPLICABILITY

5 (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) of this article,  
6 this compact applies to the following:

7 (1) The interstate placement of a child subject to ongoing court  
8 jurisdiction in the sending state, due to allegations or findings that  
9 the child has been abused, neglected, or deprived as defined by  
10 the laws of the sending state. However, the placement of such a  
11 child into a residential facility requires only notice of residential  
12 placement to the receiving state before placement.

13 (2) The interstate placement of a child adjudicated delinquent or  
14 unmanageable based on the laws of the sending state and subject  
15 to ongoing court jurisdiction of the sending state if:

16 (A) the child is being placed in a residential facility in another  
17 member state and is not covered under another compact; or

18 (B) the child is being placed in another member state and the  
19 determination of safety and suitability of the placement and  
20 services required is not provided through another compact.

21 (3) The interstate placement of any child by a public child placing  
22 agency or private child placing agency as defined in this compact  
23 as a preliminary step to a possible adoption.

24 (b) The provisions of this compact do not apply to the following:

25 (1) The interstate placement of a child in a custody proceeding in  
26 which a public child placing agency is not a party, if the  
27 placement is not intended to effectuate an adoption.

28 (2) The interstate placement of a child with a nonrelative in a  
29 receiving state by a parent with the legal authority to make such  
30 a placement. However, the placement is not intended to effectuate  
31 an adoption.

32 (3) The interstate placement of a child by one (1) relative with the  
33 lawful authority to make such a placement directly with a relative  
34 in a receiving state.

35 (4) The placement of a child not subject to subsection (a) into a  
36 residential facility by the child's parent.

37 (5) The placement of a child with a noncustodial parent if:

38 (A) the noncustodial parent proves to the satisfaction of a  
39 court in the sending state a substantial relationship with the  
40 child;

41 (B) the court in the sending state makes a written finding that  
42 placement with the noncustodial parent is in the best interests

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- 1 of the child; and  
 2 (C) the court in the sending state dismisses its jurisdiction ~~over~~  
 3 ~~the child's case.~~ **in an interstate placement in which the**  
 4 **public child placing agency is a party to the proceeding.**  
 5 (6) A child entering the United States from a foreign country for  
 6 the purpose of adoption or leaving the United States to go to a  
 7 foreign country for the purpose of adoption in that country.  
 8 (7) Cases in which a United States citizen child living overseas  
 9 with the child's family, at least one (1) member of which is in the  
 10 United States armed services and is stationed overseas, is  
 11 removed and placed in a state.  
 12 (8) The sending of a child by a public child placing agency or a  
 13 private child placing agency for a visit as defined by the rules of  
 14 the interstate commission.  
 15 (c) For purposes of determining the applicability of this compact to  
 16 the placement of a child with a family having a member in the United  
 17 States armed services, the public child placing agency or private child  
 18 placing agency may choose the state of the service member's permanent  
 19 duty station or the service member's declared legal residence.  
 20 (d) This compact shall not be construed to prohibit the concurrent  
 21 application of the provisions of this compact with other applicable  
 22 interstate compacts, including the interstate compact for juveniles and  
 23 the interstate compact on adoption and medical assistance. The  
 24 interstate commission may, in cooperation with other interstate  
 25 compact commissions having responsibility for the interstate  
 26 movement, placement, or transfer of children, promulgate like rules to  
 27 ensure the coordination of services, the timely placement of children,  
 28 and the reduction of unnecessary or duplicative administrative or  
 29 procedural requirements.  
 30 **ARTICLE IV. JURISDICTION**  
 31 (a) Except as provided in subsection ~~(g)~~ **(h)** and ARTICLE V,  
 32 subsection (b)(2) and (b)(3), concerning private and independent  
 33 adoptions, and in interstate placements in which the public child  
 34 placing agency is not a party to a custody proceeding, the sending state  
 35 retains jurisdiction over a child with respect to all matters of custody  
 36 and disposition of the child which it would have had if the child had  
 37 remained in the sending state. Jurisdiction also includes the power to  
 38 order the return of the child to the sending state.  
 39 (b) When an issue of child protection or custody is brought before  
 40 a court in the receiving state, the court shall confer with the court of the  
 41 sending state to determine the most appropriate forum for adjudication.  
 42 (c) **In cases that are before a court and are subject to this**



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1 compact, the taking of testimony for hearings before any judicial  
2 officer may occur in person, by telephone, by audio-video  
3 conference, or by other means approved by the Interstate  
4 Commission. Judicial officers may communicate with other  
5 judicial officers and persons involved in the interstate process as  
6 permitted by the canons of judicial conduct and any rules adopted  
7 by the Interstate Commission.

8 (e) (d) In accordance with its own laws, the court in the sending  
9 state shall have authority to terminate its jurisdiction if:

- 10 (1) the parent with whom the child is reunified in the receiving
- 11 state is the subject of allegations or findings of abuse or neglect,
- 12 but only with the concurrence of the public child placing agency
- 13 in the receiving state;
- 14 (2) the child is adopted;
- 15 (3) the child reaches the age of majority under the laws of the
- 16 sending state;
- 17 (4) the child achieves legal independence under the laws of the
- 18 sending state;
- 19 (5) a guardianship is created by a court in the receiving state with
- 20 the concurrence of the court in the sending state;
- 21 (6) an Indian tribe has petitioned for and received jurisdiction
- 22 from the court in the sending state; or
- 23 (7) the public child placing agency of the sending state requests
- 24 termination and has obtained the concurrence of the public child
- 25 placing agency in the receiving state.

26 (f) (e) When a sending state court terminates its jurisdiction, the  
27 receiving state child placing agency shall be notified.

28 (g) (f) Nothing in this article shall defeat a claim of jurisdiction by  
29 a receiving state court sufficient to deal with an act of truancy,  
30 delinquency, crime, or behavior that involves a child as defined by the  
31 laws of the receiving state, that is committed by the child in the  
32 receiving state, and that would be a violation of the laws of the  
33 receiving state.

34 (h) (g) This article does not limit the receiving state's ability to take  
35 emergency jurisdiction for the protection of the child.

36 (i) (h) The substantive laws of the state in which an adoption will  
37 be finalized shall solely govern all issues relating to the adoption of the  
38 child, and the court in which the adoption proceeding is filed has  
39 subject matter jurisdiction regarding all substantive issues relating to  
40 the adoption, except:

- 41 (1) when the child is a ward of another court that established
- 42 jurisdiction over the child prior to the placement;

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- 1 (2) when the child is in the legal custody of a public agency in the
- 2 sending state; or
- 3 (3) when a court in the sending state has otherwise appropriately
- 4 assumed jurisdiction over the child, prior to the submission of the
- 5 request for approval of placement.

6 ~~(h)~~ (i) A final decree of adoption shall not be entered in any  
 7 jurisdiction until the placement is authorized as an approved placement  
 8 by the public child placing agency in the receiving state.

9 ARTICLE V. PLACEMENT EVALUATION

10 (a) Before sending, bringing, or causing a child to be sent or brought  
 11 into a receiving state, the public child placing agency shall provide a  
 12 written request for assessment to the receiving state.

13 (b) For placements by a private child placing agency, a child may be  
 14 sent or brought, or caused to be sent or brought, into a receiving state,  
 15 upon receipt and immediate review of the required content in a request  
 16 for approval of a placement by both the sending state's and the  
 17 receiving state's public child placing agency. The required content to  
 18 accompany a request for ~~provisional~~ approval shall include all of the  
 19 following:

- 20 (1) A request for approval identifying the child, the birth
- 21 parent(s), the prospective adoptive parent(s), and the supervising
- 22 agency, signed by the person requesting approval.
- 23 (2) The appropriate consents or relinquishments signed by the
- 24 birth parents in accordance with the laws of the sending state, or
- 25 where permitted, the laws of the state where the adoption will be
- 26 finalized.
- 27 (3) Certification by a licensed attorney or authorized agent of a
- 28 private adoption agency that the consent or relinquishment is in
- 29 compliance with the applicable laws of the sending state, or where
- 30 permitted the laws of the state where finalization of the adoption
- 31 will occur.
- 32 (4) A home study.
- 33 (5) An acknowledgment of legal risk signed by the prospective
- 34 adoptive parents.

35 (c) The sending state and the receiving state may request additional  
 36 information or documents before finalization of an approved  
 37 placement, but they may not delay travel by the prospective adoptive  
 38 parents with the child if the required content for approval has been  
 39 submitted and has been received and reviewed by the public child  
 40 placing agency in both the sending state and the receiving state.

41 (d) Approval from the public child placing agency in the receiving  
 42 state for a provisional or approved placement is required as provided

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1 for in the rules of the interstate commission.  
 2 (e) The procedures for making and the request for an assessment  
 3 shall contain all information and be in such form as provided for in the  
 4 rules of the interstate commission.  
 5 (f) Upon receipt of a request from the public child ~~welfare~~ **placing**  
 6 agency of the sending state, the receiving state shall initiate an  
 7 assessment of the proposed placement to determine its safety and  
 8 suitability. If the proposed placement is a placement with a relative, the  
 9 public child placing agency of the sending state may request a  
 10 determination ~~of whether the placement qualifies as for~~ a provisional  
 11 placement.  
 12 ~~(g) Upon receipt of a request from the public child placing agency~~  
 13 ~~of the sending state, the receiving state shall initiate an assessment of~~  
 14 ~~the proposed placement to determine its safety and suitability. If the~~  
 15 ~~proposed placement is a placement with a relative, the public child~~  
 16 ~~placing agency of the sending state may request a determination for a~~  
 17 ~~provisional placement.~~  
 18 ~~(h)~~ **(g)** The public child placing agency in the receiving state may  
 19 request from the public child placing agency or the private child  
 20 placing agency in the sending state, and shall be entitled to receive,  
 21 supporting or additional information necessary to complete the  
 22 assessment **or approve the placement.**  
 23 ~~(i)~~ **(h)** The public child placing agency in the receiving state shall  
 24 approve a provisional placement and complete or arrange for the  
 25 completion of the assessment within the timeframes established by the  
 26 rules of the interstate commission.  
 27 ~~(j)~~ **(i)** For a placement by a private child placing agency, the sending  
 28 state shall not impose any additional requirements to complete the  
 29 home study that are not required by the receiving state, unless the  
 30 adoption is finalized in the sending state.  
 31 ~~(k)~~ **(j)** The interstate commission may develop uniform standards for  
 32 the assessment of the safety and suitability of interstate placements.  
 33 **ARTICLE VI. PLACEMENT AUTHORITY**  
 34 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this compact, no child subject  
 35 to this compact shall be placed into a receiving state until approval for  
 36 such placement is obtained.  
 37 (b) If the public child placing agency in the receiving state does not  
 38 approve the proposed placement, the child shall not be placed. The  
 39 receiving state shall provide written documentation of any such  
 40 determination in accordance with the rules promulgated by the  
 41 interstate commission. Such a determination is not subject to judicial  
 42 review in the sending state.

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1 (c) If the proposed placement is not approved, any interested party  
2 shall have standing to seek an administrative review of the receiving  
3 state's determination.

4 (d) The administrative review and any further judicial review  
5 associated with the determination shall be conducted in the receiving  
6 state under its applicable administrative procedures.

7 (e) If a determination not to approve the placement of the child in  
8 the receiving state is overturned upon review, the placement shall be  
9 considered approved. However, all administrative or judicial remedies  
10 must be exhausted or the time for such remedies must have passed.

11 ARTICLE VII. PLACING AGENCY RESPONSIBILITY

12 (a) For the interstate placement of a child made by a public child  
13 placing agency or state court:

14 (1) the public child placing agency in the sending state shall have  
15 financial responsibility for:

16 (A) the ongoing support and maintenance for the child during  
17 the period of the placement, unless otherwise provided for in  
18 the receiving state; and

19 (B) as determined by the public child placing agency in the  
20 sending state, services for the child beyond the public services  
21 for which the child is eligible in the receiving state;

22 (2) the receiving state shall have financial responsibility only for:

23 (A) any assessment conducted by the receiving state; and

24 (B) supervision conducted by the receiving state at the level  
25 necessary to support the placement as agreed upon by the  
26 public child placing agencies of the receiving and sending  
27 states; and

28 (3) nothing in this **compact provision** prohibits public child  
29 placing agencies in the sending state from entering into  
30 agreements with licensed agencies or persons in the receiving  
31 state to conduct assessments and provide supervision.

32 (b) For the placement of a child by a private child placing agency  
33 preliminary to a possible adoption, the private child placing agency  
34 shall be:

35 (1) legally responsible for the child during the period of  
36 placement as provided for in the law of the sending state until the  
37 finalization of the adoption; and

38 (2) financially responsible for the child absent a contractual  
39 agreement to the contrary.

40 (c) The public child placing agency in the receiving state shall  
41 provide timely assessments, as provided for in the rules of the interstate  
42 commission.

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1 (d) The public child placing agency in the receiving state shall  
 2 provide, or arrange for the provision of, supervision and services for  
 3 the child, including timely reports, during the period of the placement.  
 4 (e) This compact does not limit the authority of the public child  
 5 placing agency in the receiving state to contract with a licensed agency  
 6 or person in the receiving state for an assessment or the provision of  
 7 supervision or services for the child or otherwise authorize the  
 8 provision of supervision or services by a licensed agency during the  
 9 period of placement.  
 10 (f) Each member state shall provide for coordination among its  
 11 branches of government concerning the state's participation in, and  
 12 compliance with, the compact and interstate commission activities,  
 13 through the creation of an advisory council or use of an existing body  
 14 or board.  
 15 (g) Each member state shall establish a central state compact office,  
 16 which shall be responsible for state compliance with the compact and  
 17 the rules of the interstate commission.  
 18 (h) The public child placing agency in the sending state shall  
 19 oversee compliance with the provisions of the Indian Child Welfare  
 20 Act (25 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.) for placements subject to the provisions  
 21 of this compact, before placement.  
 22 (i) With the consent of the interstate commission, states may enter  
 23 into limited agreements that facilitate the timely assessment and  
 24 provision of services and supervision of placements under this  
 25 compact.

26 ARTICLE VIII. INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR THE  
 27 PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN

28 The member states hereby establish, by way of this compact, a  
 29 commission known as the "interstate commission for the placement of  
 30 children". The activities of the interstate commission are the formation  
 31 of public policy and are a discretionary state function. The interstate  
 32 commission:  
 33 (1) is a joint commission of the member states and shall have the  
 34 responsibilities, powers, and duties set forth herein, and such  
 35 additional powers as may be conferred upon it by subsequent  
 36 concurrent action of the respective legislatures of the member  
 37 states;  
 38 (2) consists of one (1) commissioner from each member state,  
 39 who shall be appointed by the executive head of the state human  
 40 services administration with ultimate responsibility for the child  
 41 welfare program, and who shall have the legal authority to vote on  
 42 policy related matters governed by this compact binding the state;

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- 1 (3) operates under:
- 2 (A) a requirement that each member state represented at a
- 3 meeting of the interstate commission is entitled to one (1)
- 4 vote;
- 5 (B) a requirement that a majority of the member states shall
- 6 constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, unless a
- 7 larger quorum is required by the bylaws of the interstate
- 8 commission;
- 9 (C) a requirement that a representative shall not delegate a
- 10 vote to another member state;
- 11 (D) a requirement that a representative may delegate voting
- 12 authority to another person from the same member state for a
- 13 specified meeting; and
- 14 (E) a requirement that the interstate commission shall include,
- 15 in addition to the commissioners of each member state,
- 16 persons who are members of interested organizations as
- 17 defined in the bylaws or rules of the interstate commission and
- 18 who shall be ex officio and shall not be entitled to vote on any
- 19 matter before the interstate commission; and
- 20 (4) shall establish an executive committee, which shall have the
- 21 authority to administer the day to day operations and
- 22 administration of the interstate commission but does not have the
- 23 power to engage in rulemaking.

24 ARTICLE IX. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE INTERSTATE  
25 COMMISSION

26 The interstate commission has powers to do the following:

- 27 (1) Promulgate rules and take all necessary actions to effect the
- 28 goals, purposes, and obligations as enumerated in this compact.
- 29 (2) Provide for dispute resolution among member states.
- 30 (3) Issue, upon request of a member state, advisory opinions
- 31 concerning the meaning or interpretation of the interstate compact
- 32 or the interstate commission's bylaws, rules, or actions.
- 33 (4) Enforce compliance with this compact or the bylaws or rules
- 34 of the interstate commission under Article XII.
- 35 (5) Collect standardized data concerning the interstate placement
- 36 of children subject to this compact as directed through its rules,
- 37 which shall specify the data to be collected, the means of
- 38 collection and data exchange, and reporting requirements.
- 39 (6) Establish and maintain offices as may be necessary for the
- 40 transacting of its business.
- 41 (7) Purchase and maintain insurance and bonds.
- 42 (8) Hire or contract for services of personnel or consultants as

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- 1 necessary to carry out its functions under the compact and
- 2 establish personnel qualification policies and rates of
- 3 compensation.
- 4 (9) Establish and appoint committees and officers, including, but
- 5 not limited to, an executive committee as required by Article X.
- 6 (10) Accept any and all donations and grants of money,
- 7 equipment, supplies, materials, and services, and ~~to receive, use;~~
- 8 **utilize**, and dispose of the donations and grants.
- 9 (11) Lease, purchase, accept contributions or donations of, or
- 10 otherwise own, hold, improve, or use any property, whether real,
- 11 personal, or mixed.
- 12 (12) Sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, abandon, or
- 13 otherwise dispose of any property, whether real, personal, or
- 14 mixed.
- 15 (13) Establish a budget and make expenditures.
- 16 (14) Adopt a seal and bylaws governing the management and
- 17 operation of the interstate commission.
- 18 (15) Report annually to the legislatures, the governors, the
- 19 judiciary, and the state advisory councils of the member states
- 20 concerning the activities of the interstate commission during the
- 21 preceding year. Such reports shall also include any
- 22 recommendations that may have been adopted by the interstate
- 23 commission.
- 24 (16) Coordinate and provide education, training, and public
- 25 awareness regarding the interstate movement of children for
- 26 officials involved in such activity.
- 27 (17) Maintain books and records in accordance with the bylaws
- 28 of the interstate commission.
- 29 (18) Perform such functions as may be necessary or appropriate
- 30 to achieve the purposes of this compact.

31 **ARTICLE X. ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION OF THE**  
 32 **INTERSTATE COMMISSION**

33 (a) Bylaws.

- 34 (1) Within twelve (12) months after the first interstate
- 35 commission meeting, the interstate commission shall adopt
- 36 bylaws to govern its conduct as may be necessary or appropriate
- 37 to carry out the purposes of this compact.
- 38 (2) The interstate commission's bylaws and rules shall establish
- 39 conditions and procedures under which the interstate commission
- 40 shall make its information and official records available to the
- 41 public for inspection or copying. The interstate commission may
- 42 exempt from disclosure information or official records to the

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1 extent they would adversely affect personal privacy rights or  
 2 proprietary interests.  
 3 (b) Meetings.  
 4 (1) The interstate commission shall meet at least once each  
 5 calendar year. The chairperson may call additional meetings and,  
 6 upon the request of a simple majority of the member states, shall  
 7 call additional meetings.  
 8 (2) Public notice shall be given by the interstate commission of all  
 9 meetings, and all meetings shall be open to the public, except as  
 10 set forth in the rules or as otherwise provided in the compact. The  
 11 interstate commission and its committees may close a meeting, or  
 12 part of a meeting, where it determines by two-thirds (2/3) vote  
 13 that an open meeting would be likely to:  
 14 (A) relate solely to the interstate commission's internal  
 15 personnel practices and procedures;  
 16 (B) disclose matters specifically exempted from disclosure by  
 17 federal law;  
 18 (C) disclose financial or commercial information that is  
 19 privileged, proprietary, or confidential in nature;  
 20 (D) involve accusing a person of a crime, or formally  
 21 censuring a person;  
 22 (E) disclose information of a personal nature where disclosure  
 23 would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal  
 24 privacy or physically endanger one (1) or more persons;  
 25 (F) disclose investigative records compiled for law  
 26 enforcement purposes; or  
 27 (G) specifically relate to the interstate commission's  
 28 participation in a civil action or other legal proceeding.  
 29 (3) For a meeting, or part of a meeting, closed under this  
 30 provision, the interstate commission's legal counsel or designee  
 31 shall certify that the meeting may be closed and shall reference  
 32 each relevant exemption provision. The interstate commission  
 33 shall keep minutes that shall fully and clearly describe all matters  
 34 discussed in the meeting and shall provide a full and accurate  
 35 summary of actions taken and the reasons for the actions,  
 36 including a description of the views expressed and the record of  
 37 a roll call vote. All documents considered in connection with an  
 38 action shall be identified in the minutes. All minutes and  
 39 documents of a closed meeting shall remain under seal, subject to  
 40 release by a majority vote of the interstate commission or by court  
 41 order.  
 42 (4) The bylaws may provide for meetings of the interstate

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1 commission to be conducted by telecommunication or other  
2 electronic communication.  
3 (c) Officers and staff.  
4 (1) The interstate commission may, through its executive  
5 committee, appoint or retain a staff director for such period, upon  
6 such terms and conditions, and for such compensation as the  
7 interstate commission may ~~consider~~ **deem** appropriate. The staff  
8 director shall serve as secretary to the interstate commission, but  
9 shall not have a vote. The staff director may hire and supervise  
10 such other staff as may be authorized by the interstate  
11 commission.  
12 (2) The interstate commission shall elect, from among its  
13 members, a chairperson and a vice chairperson of the executive  
14 committee and other necessary officers, each of whom shall have  
15 such authority and duties as may be specified in the bylaws.  
16 (d) Qualified immunity, defense, and indemnification.  
17 (1) The interstate commission's staff director and the employees  
18 of the commission are immune from suit and liability, either  
19 personally or in official capacity, for a claim for damage to or loss  
20 of property or personal injury or other civil liability caused or  
21 arising out of or relating to any actual or alleged act, error, or  
22 omission that occurred, or that the staff director or employee had  
23 a reasonable basis for believing occurred, within the scope of  
24 commission employment, duties, or responsibilities. The staff  
25 director or an employee is not protected from suit or liability for  
26 damage, loss, injury, or liability caused by a criminal act or  
27 intentional or willful and wanton misconduct.  
28 (2) The liability of the interstate commission's staff director and  
29 employees or interstate commission representatives, acting within  
30 the scope of such person's employment or duties, for acts, errors,  
31 or omissions occurring within such person's state, may not exceed  
32 the limits of liability set forth under the Constitution and laws of  
33 that state for state officials, employees, and agents. The interstate  
34 commission is considered to be an instrumentality of the states for  
35 the purposes of any such action. Nothing in this subsection shall  
36 be construed to protect such person from suit or liability for  
37 damage, loss, injury, or liability caused by a criminal act or the  
38 intentional or willful and wanton misconduct of such person.  
39 (3) The interstate commission shall defend the staff director and  
40 its employees and, subject to the approval of the attorney general  
41 or other appropriate legal counsel of the member state, shall  
42 defend the commissioner of a member state in a civil action

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1 seeking to impose liability arising out of an actual or alleged act,  
2 error, or omission that occurred within the scope of interstate  
3 commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that the  
4 defendant had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the  
5 scope of interstate commission employment, duties, or  
6 responsibilities, if the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did  
7 not result from intentional or willful and wanton misconduct on  
8 the part of such person.

9 (4) To the extent not covered by the state involved, member state,  
10 or the interstate commission, the representatives or employees of  
11 the interstate commission shall be held harmless in the amount of  
12 a settlement or judgment, including attorney's fees and costs,  
13 obtained against such persons arising out of an actual or alleged  
14 act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of interstate  
15 commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that such  
16 persons had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the  
17 scope of interstate commission employment, duties, or  
18 responsibilities, if the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did  
19 not result from intentional or willful and wanton misconduct on  
20 the part of such persons.

21 ARTICLE XI. RULEMAKING FUNCTIONS OF THE  
22 INTERSTATE COMMISSION

23 (a) The interstate commission shall promulgate and publish rules in  
24 order to effectively and efficiently to achieve the purposes of the  
25 compact.

26 (b) Rulemaking shall occur under the criteria set forth in this article  
27 and the bylaws and rules adopted pursuant thereto. Such rulemaking  
28 shall substantially conform to the principles of the "Model State  
29 Administrative Procedures Act," 1981 Act, Uniform Laws Annotated,  
30 Vol. 15, p. 1 (2000), or such other administrative procedure acts as the  
31 interstate commission ~~considers~~ **deems** appropriate and consistent with  
32 due process requirements under the United States Constitution as now  
33 or hereafter interpreted by the United States Supreme Court. All rules  
34 and amendments shall become binding as of the date specified, as  
35 published with the final version of the rule as approved by the interstate  
36 commission.

37 (c) When promulgating a rule, the interstate commission shall, at a  
38 minimum:

- 39 (1) publish the proposed rule's entire text, stating the reasons for  
40 that proposed rule;
- 41 (2) allow and invite any and all persons to submit written data,  
42 facts, opinions, and arguments, which information shall be added

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1 to the record and be made publicly available; and  
 2 (3) promulgate a final rule and its effective date, if appropriate,  
 3 based on input from state or local officials or interested parties.  
 4 (d) Rules promulgated by the interstate commission shall have the  
 5 force and effect of administrative rules and shall be binding in the  
 6 compacting states to the extent and in the manner provided for in this  
 7 compact.  
 8 (e) Not later than sixty (60) days after a rule is promulgated, an  
 9 interested person may file a petition in the U.S. District Court for the  
 10 District of Columbia or in the federal district court of the district where  
 11 the interstate commission's principal office is located for judicial  
 12 review of such rule. If the court finds that the interstate commission's  
 13 action is not supported by substantial evidence in the rulemaking  
 14 record, the court shall hold the rule unlawful and set it aside.  
 15 (f) A majority of the legislatures of the member states may reject a  
 16 rule by enacting, in the same manner used to adopt the compact, a  
 17 statute or resolution that provides that the rule shall have no further  
 18 force and effect in any member state.  
 19 (g) The existing rules governing the operation of the interstate  
 20 compact on the placement of children that are superseded by this act  
 21 shall be null and void not less than twelve (12), but not more than  
 22 twenty-four (24), months after the first meeting of the interstate  
 23 commission created hereunder, as determined by the members during  
 24 the first meeting.  
 25 (h) Within the first twelve (12) months of operation, the interstate  
 26 commission shall promulgate rules addressing the following:  
 27 (1) Transition rules.  
 28 (2) Forms and procedures.  
 29 (3) Time lines.  
 30 (4) Data collection and reporting.  
 31 (5) Rulemaking.  
 32 (6) Visitation.  
 33 (7) Progress reports/supervision.  
 34 (8) Sharing of information/confidentiality.  
 35 (9) Financing of the interstate commission.  
 36 (10) Mediation, arbitration, and dispute resolution.  
 37 (11) Education, training, and technical assistance.  
 38 (12) Enforcement.  
 39 (13) Coordination with other interstate compacts.  
 40 (i) Upon determination by a majority of the members of the  
 41 interstate commission that an emergency exists: ~~the interstate~~  
 42 ~~commission may promulgate an emergency rule, subject to the~~

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- 1 following:
- 2 (1) the interstate commission may promulgate an emergency rule
- 3 only if the emergency rule is required to:
- 4 (A) protect the children covered by this compact from an
- 5 imminent threat to their health, safety, and well-being;
- 6 (B) prevent loss of federal or state funds; or
- 7 (C) meet a deadline for the promulgation of an administrative
- 8 rule required by federal law;
- 9 (2) an emergency rule shall become effective immediately upon
- 10 adoption, provided that the usual rulemaking procedures provided
- 11 hereunder shall be retroactively applied to the rule as soon as
- 12 reasonably possible, but not later than ninety (90) days after the
- 13 effective date of the emergency rule; **and**
- 14 (3) an emergency rule shall be promulgated as provided for in the
- 15 rules of the interstate commission.

16 ARTICLE XII. OVERSIGHT, DISPUTE RESOLUTION,  
17 ENFORCEMENT

18 (a) Oversight.

- 19 (1) The interstate commission shall oversee the administration
- 20 and operation of the compact.
- 21 (2) The executive, legislative, and judicial branches of state
- 22 government in each member state shall enforce this compact and
- 23 the rules of the interstate commission and shall take all actions
- 24 necessary and appropriate to effectuate the compact's purposes
- 25 and intent. The compact and its rules shall be binding in the
- 26 compacting states to the extent and in the manner provided for in
- 27 this compact.
- 28 (3) All courts shall take judicial notice of the compact and the
- 29 rules in any judicial or administrative proceeding in a member
- 30 state pertaining to the subject matter of this compact.
- 31 (4) The interstate commission shall be entitled to receive service
- 32 of process in any action in which the validity of a compact
- 33 provision or rule is the issue for which a judicial determination
- 34 has been sought and shall have standing to intervene in any
- 35 proceedings. Failure to provide service of process to the interstate
- 36 commission shall render any judgment, order, or other
- 37 determination, however so captioned or classified, void as to the
- 38 interstate commission, this compact, or the bylaws or rules of the
- 39 interstate commission.

40 (b) Dispute resolution.

- 41 (1) The interstate commission shall attempt, upon the request of
- 42 a member state, to resolve disputes that are subject to the compact

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1 and that may arise among member states and between member  
 2 and nonmember states.  
 3 (2) The interstate commission shall promulgate a rule providing  
 4 for both mediation and binding dispute resolution for disputes  
 5 among compacting states. The costs of such mediation or dispute  
 6 resolution shall be the responsibility of the parties to the dispute.  
 7 (c) Enforcement.  
 8 (1) If the interstate commission determines that a member state  
 9 has defaulted in the performance of its obligations or  
 10 responsibilities under this compact, its bylaws, or rules, the  
 11 interstate commission may:  
 12 (A) provide remedial training and specific technical  
 13 assistance;  
 14 (B) provide written notice to the defaulting state and other  
 15 member states of the nature of the default and the means of  
 16 curing the default. The interstate commission shall specify the  
 17 conditions by which the defaulting state must cure its default;  
 18 (C) by majority vote of the members, initiate against a  
 19 defaulting member state legal action in the United States  
 20 District Court for the District of Columbia or, at the discretion  
 21 of the interstate commission, in the federal district where the  
 22 interstate commission has its principal office, to enforce  
 23 compliance with the provisions of the compact or with the  
 24 interstate commission's bylaws or rules. The relief sought may  
 25 include both injunctive relief and damages. If judicial  
 26 enforcement is necessary, the prevailing party shall be  
 27 awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable  
 28 attorney's fees; or  
 29 (D) avail itself of any other remedies available under state law  
 30 or the rules relating to the regulation of official or professional  
 31 conduct.

32 **ARTICLE XIII. FINANCING OF THE COMMISSION**

33 (a) The interstate commission shall pay or provide for the payment  
 34 of the reasonable expenses of its establishment, organization, and  
 35 ongoing activities.  
 36 (b) The interstate commission may levy on and collect an annual  
 37 assessment from each member state to cover the cost of the operations  
 38 and activities of the interstate commission and its staff, which must be  
 39 in a total amount sufficient to cover the interstate commission's annual  
 40 budget as approved by its members each year. The aggregate annual  
 41 assessment amount shall be allocated based upon a formula to be  
 42 determined by the interstate commission, which shall promulgate a rule

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binding upon all member states.

(c) The interstate commission shall not incur obligations of any kind before securing the funds adequate to meet the obligations. The interstate commission shall not pledge the credit of any of the member states, except by and with the authority of the member state.

(d) The interstate commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the interstate commission shall be subject to the audit and accounting procedures established under its bylaws. However, all receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the interstate commission shall be audited yearly by a certified or licensed public accountant, and the report of the audit shall be included in and become part of the annual report of the interstate commission.

**ARTICLE XIV. MEMBER STATES, EFFECTIVE DATE, AND AMENDMENT**

(a) Any state is eligible to become a member state.

(b) The compact shall become effective and binding upon legislative enactment of the compact into law by thirty-five (35) states. The effective date shall be the later of July 1, 2007, or upon enactment of the compact into law by the thirty-fifth state. Thereafter, the compact shall become effective and binding as to any other member state upon enactment of the compact into law by that state. The executive heads of the state human services administration with ultimate responsibility for the child welfare program of nonmember states or their designees shall be invited to participate in the activities of the interstate commission on a nonvoting basis before adoption of the compact by all states.

(c) The interstate commission may propose amendments to the compact for enactment by the member states. No amendment shall become effective and binding on the member states unless and until it is enacted into law by unanimous consent of the member states.

**ARTICLE XV. WITHDRAWAL AND DISSOLUTION**

(a) Withdrawal.

(1) Once effective, this compact continues in force and remains binding upon each and every member state. However, a member state may withdraw from the compact by specifically repealing the statute that enacted the compact into law.

(2) Withdrawal from this compact shall be by the enactment of a statute repealing the statute establishing the compact. The effective date of withdrawal is the effective date of the repeal of the statute.

(3) The withdrawing state shall immediately notify the president

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1 of the interstate commission in writing upon the introduction of  
2 legislation repealing this compact in the withdrawing state. The  
3 interstate commission shall then notify the other member states of  
4 the withdrawing state's intent to withdraw.

5 (4) The withdrawing state is responsible for all assessments,  
6 obligations, and liabilities incurred through the effective date of  
7 withdrawal.

8 (5) Reinstatement following withdrawal of a member state shall  
9 occur upon the withdrawing state reenacting the compact or upon  
10 such later date as determined by the members of the interstate  
11 commission.

12 (b) Dissolution of compact.

13 (1) This compact shall dissolve effective upon the date of the  
14 withdrawal or default of the member state that reduces the  
15 membership in the compact to one (1) member state.

16 (2) Upon the dissolution of this compact, the compact becomes  
17 void and is of no further force or effect, and the business and  
18 affairs of the interstate commission shall be concluded and  
19 surplus funds shall be distributed in accordance with the bylaws.

20 ARTICLE XVI. SEVERABILITY AND CONSTRUCTION

21 (a) The provisions of this compact shall be severable, and if any  
22 phrase, clause, sentence, or provision is ~~considered~~ **deemed**  
23 unenforceable, the remaining provisions of the compact shall be  
24 enforceable.

25 (b) The provisions of this compact shall be liberally construed to  
26 effectuate its purposes.

27 (c) Nothing in this compact shall be construed to prohibit the  
28 concurrent applicability of other interstate compacts to which the states  
29 are members.

30 ARTICLE XVII. BINDING EFFECT OF COMPACT AND OTHER  
31 LAWS

32 (a) ~~Other laws.~~

33 (1) This compact does not prevent the enforcement of any other  
34 law of a member state that is not inconsistent with this compact.

35 (2) ~~All member states' laws conflicting with this compact or its  
36 rules are superseded to the extent of the conflict.~~

37 (b) Binding effect of this compact.

38 (1) All lawful actions of the interstate commission, including all  
39 rules and bylaws promulgated by the interstate commission, are  
40 binding upon the member states.

41 (2) All agreements between the interstate commission and the  
42 member states are binding in accordance with their terms.

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1 (3) If any provision of this compact exceeds the constitutional  
2 limits imposed on the legislature of any member state, the  
3 provision is ineffective to the extent of the conflict with the  
4 constitutional provision in question in that member state.

5 ARTICLE XVIII. INDIAN TRIBES

6 Notwithstanding any other provision in this compact, the interstate  
7 commission may promulgate guidelines to permit Indian tribes to ~~use~~  
8 **utilize** the compact to achieve any or all of the purposes of the compact  
9 as specified in Article I. The interstate commission shall make  
10 reasonable efforts to consult with Indian tribes in promulgating  
11 guidelines to reflect the diverse circumstances of the various Indian  
12 tribes.

13 SECTION 153. IC 31-33-18-1, AS AMENDED BY  
14 P.L.182-2009(ss), SECTION 378, IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
15 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 1. (a) Except as  
16 provided in section 1.5 of this chapter, the following are confidential:

- 17 (1) Reports made under this article (or IC 31-6-11 before its  
18 repeal).
- 19 (2) Any other information obtained, reports written, or  
20 photographs taken concerning the reports in the possession of:
  - 21 (A) the division of family resources;
  - 22 (B) the ~~county~~ **local** office;
  - 23 (C) the department; or
  - 24 (D) the department of child services ombudsman established  
25 by IC 4-13-19-3.

26 (b) Except as provided in section 1.5 of this chapter, all records held  
27 by:

- 28 (1) the division of family resources;
- 29 (2) a ~~county~~ **local** office;
- 30 (3) the department;
- 31 (4) a local child fatality review team established under  
32 IC 31-33-24;
- 33 (5) the statewide child fatality review committee established  
34 under IC 31-33-25; or
- 35 (6) the department of child services ombudsman established by  
36 IC 4-13-19-3;

37 regarding the death of a child determined to be a result of abuse,  
38 abandonment, or neglect are confidential and may not be disclosed.

39 SECTION 154. IC 31-33-18-1.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.162-2011,  
40 SECTION 46, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
41 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 1.5. (a) This section applies to records held by:

- 42 (1) a ~~county~~ **local** office;

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- 1 (2) the department;
- 2 (3) a local child fatality review team established under
- 3 IC 31-33-24;
- 4 (4) the statewide child fatality review committee established
- 5 under IC 31-33-25; or
- 6 (5) the department of child services ombudsman established by
- 7 IC 4-13-19-3;

8 regarding a child whose death or near fatality may have been the result  
 9 of abuse, abandonment, or neglect.

10 (b) For purposes of subsection (a), a child's death or near fatality  
 11 may have been the result of abuse, abandonment, or neglect if:

- 12 (1) an entity described in subsection (a) determines that the child's
- 13 death or near fatality is the result of abuse, abandonment, or
- 14 neglect; or
- 15 (2) a prosecuting attorney files:
  - 16 (A) an indictment or information; or
  - 17 (B) a complaint alleging the commission of a delinquent act;
  - 18 that, if proven, would cause a reasonable person to believe that
  - 19 the child's death or near fatality may have been the result of
  - 20 abuse, abandonment, or neglect.

21 Upon the request of any person, or upon its own motion, the court  
 22 exercising juvenile jurisdiction in the county in which the child's death  
 23 or near fatality occurred shall determine whether the allegations  
 24 contained in the indictment, information, or complaint described in  
 25 subdivision (2), if proven, would cause a reasonable person to believe  
 26 that the child's death or near fatality may have been the result of abuse,  
 27 abandonment, or neglect.

28 (c) If the juvenile court finds that the child's death or near fatality  
 29 was the result of abuse, abandonment, or neglect, the court shall make  
 30 written findings and provide a copy of the findings and the indictment,  
 31 information, or complaint described under subsection (b)(2) to the  
 32 department.

- 33 (d) As used in this section:
  - 34 (1) "case" means:
    - 35 (A) any intake report generated by the department;
    - 36 (B) any investigation or assessment conducted by the
    - 37 department; or
    - 38 (C) ongoing involvement between the department and a child
    - 39 or family that is the result of:
      - 40 (i) a program of informal adjustment; or
      - 41 (ii) a child in need of services action;
      - 42 for which related records and documents have not been expunged

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1 as required by law or by a court at the time the department is  
2 notified of a fatality or near fatality;  
3 (2) "contact" means in person communication about a case in  
4 which:  
5 (A) the child who is the victim of a fatality or near fatality is  
6 alleged to be a victim; or  
7 (B) the perpetrator of the fatality or near fatality is alleged to  
8 be the perpetrator;  
9 (3) "identifying information" means information that identifies an  
10 individual, including an individual's:  
11 (A) name, address, date of birth, occupation, place of  
12 employment, and telephone number;  
13 (B) employer identification number, mother's maiden name,  
14 Social Security number, or any identification number issued by  
15 a governmental entity;  
16 (C) unique biometric data, including the individual's  
17 fingerprint, voice print, or retina or iris image;  
18 (D) unique electronic identification number, address, or  
19 routing code;  
20 (E) telecommunication identifying information; or  
21 (F) telecommunication access device, including a card, a plate,  
22 a code, an account number, a personal identification number,  
23 an electronic serial number, a mobile identification number, or  
24 another telecommunications service or device or means of  
25 account access; and  
26 (4) "near fatality" has the meaning set forth in 42 U.S.C. 5106a.  
27 (e) Unless information in a record is otherwise confidential under  
28 state or federal law, a record described in subsection (a) that has been  
29 redacted in accordance with this section is not confidential and may be  
30 disclosed to any person who requests the record. The person requesting  
31 the record may be required to pay the reasonable expenses of copying  
32 the record.  
33 (f) When a person requests a record described in subsection (a), the  
34 entity having control of the record shall immediately transmit a copy of  
35 the record to the court exercising juvenile jurisdiction in the county in  
36 which the death or near fatality of the child occurred. However, if the  
37 court requests that the entity having control of a record transmit the  
38 original record, the entity shall transmit the original record.  
39 (g) Upon receipt of the record described in subsection (a), the court  
40 shall, within thirty (30) days, redact the record to exclude:  
41 (1) identifying information described in subsection (d)(3)(B)  
42 through (d)(3)(F) of a person; and

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- 1 (2) all identifying information of a child less than eighteen (18)
- 2 years of age.
- 3 (h) The court shall disclose the record redacted in accordance with
- 4 subsection (g) to any person who requests the record, if the person has
- 5 paid:
- 6 (1) to the entity having control of the record, the reasonable
- 7 expenses of copying under IC 5-14-3-8; and
- 8 (2) to the court, the reasonable expenses of copying the record.
- 9 (i) The data and information in a record disclosed under this section
- 10 must include the following:
- 11 (1) A summary of the report of abuse or neglect and a factual
- 12 description of the contents of the report.
- 13 (2) The date of birth and gender of the child.
- 14 (3) The cause of the fatality or near fatality, if the cause has been
- 15 determined.
- 16 (4) Whether the department had any contact with the child or the
- 17 perpetrator before the fatality or near fatality, and, if the
- 18 department had contact, the following:
- 19 (A) The frequency of the contact with the child or the
- 20 perpetrator before the fatality or near fatality and the date on
- 21 which the last contact occurred before the fatality or near
- 22 fatality.
- 23 (B) A summary of the status of the child's case at the time of
- 24 the fatality or near fatality, including:
- 25 (i) whether the child's case was closed by the department
- 26 before the fatality or near fatality; and
- 27 (ii) if the child's case was closed as described under item (i),
- 28 the date of closure and the reasons that the case was closed.
- 29 (j) The court's determination under subsection (g) that certain
- 30 identifying information or other information is not relevant to
- 31 establishing the facts and circumstances leading to the death or near
- 32 fatality of a child is not admissible in a criminal proceeding or civil
- 33 action.
- 34 SECTION 155. IC 31-33-18-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.234-2005,
- 35 SECTION 156, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
- 36 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 3. (a) Section 2 of this chapter does
- 37 not prevent the ~~county local~~ office of family and children or the
- 38 department from disclosing to a qualified individual engaged in a good
- 39 faith research project either:
- 40 (1) information of a general nature, including the incidents of
- 41 reported child abuse or neglect or other statistical or social data
- 42 used in connection with studies, reports, or surveys, and

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1 information related to their function and activities; or  
 2 (2) information relating to case histories of child abuse or neglect  
 3 if:  
 4 (A) the information disclosed does not identify or reasonably  
 5 tend to identify the persons involved; and  
 6 (B) the information is not a subject of pending litigation.  
 7 (b) To implement this section, the department shall adopt under  
 8 IC 4-22-2 rules to govern the dissemination of information to  
 9 qualifying researchers.  
 10 SECTION 156. IC 31-33-26-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.131-2009,  
 11 SECTION 56, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 12 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 3. In addition to the equipment needed to  
 13 establish, operate, and maintain the index, the index must include the  
 14 following components:  
 15 ~~(1) One (1) computer to be purchased for every two (2) family~~  
 16 ~~case managers.~~  
 17 ~~(2) (1)~~ Automated risk assessment in which a family case  
 18 manager or supervisor is able to review a substantiated child  
 19 abuse or neglect case to determine prior case history during the  
 20 intake, assessment, and case management processes.  
 21 ~~(3) (2)~~ The capability to allow supervisors to monitor child abuse  
 22 and neglect cases and reports relating to the cases.  
 23 ~~(4) (3)~~ The automated production of standard reports to enable the  
 24 automated compilation of information gathered on forms used by  
 25 family case managers to report the information and results of  
 26 child abuse and neglect cases. The index must also provide for the  
 27 automation of other data for planning and evaluation as  
 28 determined by the department.  
 29 ~~(5) (4)~~ The capability of same day notification and transfer of  
 30 statistical information to the department regarding new and closed  
 31 child abuse and neglect cases.  
 32 ~~(6) (5)~~ The enabling of child welfare supervisors to review a child  
 33 abuse or neglect determination at any point after the assessment  
 34 is initially classified as substantiated abuse or neglect, to confirm  
 35 the status of the case, and to allow for the consolidated  
 36 management of cases.  
 37 ~~(7) (6)~~ The capability for adjusting the index's programming at a  
 38 later date if additional reporting requirements occur.  
 39 ~~(8) (7)~~ A word processing capability to allow case notes to be  
 40 recorded with each substantiated child abuse and neglect case.  
 41 SECTION 157. IC 31-34-1-16, AS AMENDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
 42 SECTION 289, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS

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1 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 16. (a) The department may not:

2 (1) initiate a court proceeding to:

3 (A) terminate the parental rights concerning; or

4 (B) transfer legal custody of; or

5 (2) require a parent, guardian, or custodian to consent to:

6 (A) the termination of parental rights; or

7 (B) transfer of legal custody of;

8 a child with an emotional, a behavioral, or a mental disorder or a  
9 developmental or physical disability who is voluntarily placed out of  
10 the home for the purpose of obtaining special treatment or care, solely  
11 because the parent, guardian, or custodian is unable to provide the  
12 treatment or care. Relinquishment of custody of a child described in  
13 this subsection may not be made a condition for receipt of services or  
14 care delivered or funded by the department or the **county local** office.  
15 ~~of family and children.~~

16 (b) When a child described in subsection (a) is voluntarily placed  
17 out of the home to receive special treatment or care, the department and  
18 the parent, guardian, or custodian of the child may execute a voluntary  
19 placement agreement that includes the following:

20 (1) A statement that, by entering into a voluntary placement  
21 agreement, the parent, guardian, or custodian of the child is not  
22 transferring legal custody of the child to the department.

23 (2) A statement specifying the legal status of the child.

24 (3) A statement specifying the rights and obligations of the parent,  
25 guardian, or custodian.

26 SECTION 158. IC 31-34-2.5-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
27 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 1. (a) An emergency  
28 medical services provider shall, without a court order, take custody of  
29 a child who is, or who appears to be, not more than ~~forty-five (45)~~  
30 **thirty (30)** days of age if:

31 (1) the child is voluntarily left with the provider by the child's  
32 parent; and

33 (2) the parent does not express an intent to return for the child.

34 (b) An emergency medical services provider who takes custody of  
35 a child under this section shall perform any act necessary to protect the  
36 child's physical health or safety.

37 (c) Any person who in good faith voluntarily leaves a child with an  
38 emergency medical services provider is not obligated to disclose the  
39 parent's name or ~~their~~ **the person's** name.

40 SECTION 159. IC 31-34-4-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.162-2011,  
41 SECTION 49, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
42 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 2. (a) If a child alleged to be a child in need of

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1 services is taken into custody under an order of the court under this  
 2 chapter and the court orders out-of-home placement, the department is  
 3 responsible for that placement and care and must consider placing the  
 4 child with a:

- 5 (1) suitable and willing blood or an adoptive relative caretaker,  
 6 including a grandparent, an aunt, an uncle, or an adult sibling;
- 7 (2) de facto custodian; or
- 8 (3) stepparent;

9 before considering any other out-of-home placement.

10 (b) Before the department places a child in need of services with a  
 11 blood relative or an adoptive relative caretaker, a de facto custodian, or  
 12 a stepparent, the department shall complete an evaluation based on a  
 13 home visit of the relative's home.

14 (c) Except as provided in subsection (e), before placing a child in  
 15 need of services in an out-of-home placement, including placement  
 16 with a blood or an adoptive relative caretaker, a de facto custodian, or  
 17 a stepparent, the department shall conduct a criminal history check of  
 18 each person who is currently residing in the location designated as the  
 19 out-of-home placement.

20 (d) Except as provided in subsection (f), the department may not  
 21 make an out-of-home placement if a person described in subsection (c)  
 22 has:

- 23 (1) committed an act resulting in a substantiated report of child  
 24 abuse or neglect; or
- 25 (2) been convicted of a felony listed in IC 31-27-4-13 or had a  
 26 juvenile adjudication for an act that would be a felony listed in  
 27 IC 31-27-4-13 if committed by an adult.

28 (e) The department is not required to conduct a criminal history  
 29 check under subsection (c) if the department makes an out-of-home  
 30 placement to an entity or a facility that is not a residence (as defined in  
 31 IC 3-5-2-42.5) or that is licensed by the state.

32 (f) A court may order or the department may approve an  
 33 out-of-home placement if:

- 34 (1) a person described in subsection (c) has:
  - 35 (A) committed an act resulting in a substantiated report of
  - 36 child abuse or neglect;
  - 37 (B) been convicted of:
    - 38 (i) battery (IC 35-42-2-1) as a felony;
    - 39 (ii) criminal confinement (IC 35-42-3-3) as a felony;
    - 40 (iii) carjacking (IC 35-42-5-2) as a felony;
    - 41 (iv) arson (IC 35-43-1-1) as a felony;
    - 42 (v) a felony involving a weapon under IC 35-47 or



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1 IC 35-47.5;  
 2 (vi) a felony relating to controlled substances under  
 3 IC 35-48-4; ~~or~~  
 4 **(vii) a felony under IC 9-30-5; or**  
 5 ~~(vii) (viii)~~ a felony that is substantially equivalent to a felony  
 6 listed in items (i) through ~~(vi) (vii)~~ for which the conviction  
 7 was entered in another state;  
 8 if the conviction did not occur within the past five (5) years; or  
 9 (C) had a juvenile adjudication for an act listed in  
 10 IC 31-27-4-13(a) that, if committed by an adult, would be a  
 11 felony; and

12 (2) the person's commission of the offense, delinquent act, or act  
 13 of abuse or neglect described in subdivision (1) is not relevant to  
 14 the person's present ability to care for a child, and the placement  
 15 is in the best interest of the child.

16 However, a court or the department may not make an out-of-home  
 17 placement if the person has been convicted of a felony listed in  
 18 IC 31-27-4-13 that is not specifically excluded under subdivision  
 19 (1)(B).

20 (g) In considering the placement under subsection (f), the court or  
 21 the department shall consider the following:

- 22 (1) The length of time since the person committed the offense,  
 23 delinquent act, or abuse or neglect.
- 24 (2) The severity of the offense, delinquent act, or abuse or neglect.
- 25 (3) Evidence of the person's rehabilitation, including the person's  
 26 cooperation with a treatment plan, if applicable.

27 SECTION 160. IC 31-34-12-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 28 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 5. Evidence that a prior  
 29 or subsequent act or omission by a parent, guardian, or custodian  
 30 injured **or neglected** a child is admissible in proceedings alleging that  
 31 a child is a child in need of services to show the following:

- 32 (1) Intent, guilty knowledge, the absence of mistake or accident,  
 33 identification, the existence of a common scheme or plan, or other  
 34 similar purposes.
- 35 (2) A likelihood that the act or omission of the parent, guardian,  
 36 or custodian is responsible for the child's current injury or  
 37 condition.

38 SECTION 161. IC 31-34-15-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.131-2009,  
 39 SECTION 64, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 40 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 4. A child's case plan must be set out in a form  
 41 prescribed by the department that meets the specifications set by 45  
 42 CFR 1356.21. The case plan must include a description and discussion

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- 1 of the following:
- 2 (1) A permanent plan for the child and an estimated date for
- 3 achieving the goal of the plan.
- 4 (2) The appropriate placement for the child based on the child's
- 5 special needs and best interests.
- 6 (3) The least restrictive family-like setting that is close to the
- 7 home of the child's parent, custodian, or guardian if out-of-home
- 8 placement is recommended. If an out-of-home placement is
- 9 appropriate, the **county local** office or department shall consider
- 10 whether a child in need of services should be placed with the
- 11 child's suitable and willing blood or adoptive relative caretaker,
- 12 including a grandparent, an aunt, an uncle, or an adult sibling,
- 13 before considering other out-of-home placements for the child.
- 14 (4) Family services recommended for the child, parent, guardian,
- 15 or custodian.
- 16 (5) Efforts already made to provide family services to the child,
- 17 parent, guardian, or custodian.
- 18 (6) Efforts that will be made to provide family services that are
- 19 ordered by the court.
- 20 (7) A plan for ensuring the educational stability of the child while
- 21 in foster care that includes assurances that the:
- 22 (A) placement of the child in foster care considers the
- 23 appropriateness of the current educational setting of the child
- 24 and the proximity to the school where the child is presently
- 25 enrolled; and
- 26 (B) department has coordinated with local educational
- 27 agencies to ensure:
- 28 (i) the child remains in the school where the child is enrolled
- 29 at the time of removal; or
- 30 (ii) immediate, appropriate enrollment of the child in a
- 31 different school, including arrangements for the transfer of
- 32 the child's school records to the new school, if remaining in
- 33 the same school is not in the best interests of the child.
- 34 SECTION 162. IC 31-34-15-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.145-2006,
- 35 SECTION 305, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
- 36 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 6. (a) This section applies whenever
- 37 a child who was born out of wedlock is:
- 38 (1) or is alleged to be a child in need of services; and
- 39 (2) under the supervision of the department or a **county local**
- 40 office as a result of a court ordered out-of-home placement.
- 41 (b) The department or the **county local** office shall refer a child's
- 42 case to the local prosecuting attorney's office for the filing of a

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1 paternity action if the:  
 2 (1) identity of the alleged father is known; and  
 3 (2) department or the **county local** office reasonably believes that  
 4 establishing the paternity of the child would be beneficial to the  
 5 child.  
 6 The local prosecuting attorney's office shall file a paternity action  
 7 regarding each case that is referred under this subsection. The  
 8 department shall sign the paternity petition as the child's next friend.  
 9 SECTION 163. IC 31-34-19-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
 10 SECTION 309, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 11 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 4. If:  
 12 (1) a child is referred to a probate court;  
 13 (2) the juvenile court initiates a commitment proceeding; or  
 14 (3) the court transfers a commitment proceeding under  
 15 IC 12-26-1-4;  
 16 the juvenile court shall discharge the child or continue the court's  
 17 proceedings under the juvenile law. However, if the child is under the  
 18 custody or supervision of a **county local** office or the department, the  
 19 juvenile court may not release the **county local** office from the  
 20 obligations of the **county local** office or the department to the child  
 21 pending the outcome of the proceeding under IC 12-26.  
 22 SECTION 164. IC 31-34-19-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
 23 SECTION 310, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 24 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 5. If the court authorizes a child  
 25 who is under the custody or supervision of a **county local** office or the  
 26 department to be placed in a state institution (as defined in  
 27 IC 12-7-2-184) for voluntary treatment in accordance with IC 12-26-3,  
 28 the court may not release the department from obligations of the **county**  
 29 **local** office or the department to the child until a parent, guardian, or  
 30 other responsible person approved by the court assumes the  
 31 obligations.  
 32 SECTION 165. IC 31-34-19-6.1, AS ADDED BY P.L.146-2008,  
 33 SECTION 601, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 34 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 6.1. (a) Before entering its  
 35 dispositional decree **or a modification to a dispositional decree**, the  
 36 juvenile court shall do the following:  
 37 (1) Consider the recommendations for the needs of the child for  
 38 care, treatment, rehabilitation, or placement made by the  
 39 department in the department's predispositional report.  
 40 (2) Consider the recommendations for the needs of the child for  
 41 care, treatment, rehabilitation, or placement made by the parent,  
 42 guardian or custodian, guardian ad litem or court appointed

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1 special advocate, foster parent, other caretaker of the child, or  
 2 other party to the proceeding.  
 3 (3) If the juvenile court determines that the best interests of the  
 4 child require consideration of other dispositional options, submit  
 5 the juvenile court's own recommendations for care, treatment,  
 6 rehabilitation, or placement of the child.  
 7 (b) If the juvenile court accepts the recommendations in the  
 8 department's predispositional report, the juvenile court shall enter its  
 9 dispositional decree with its findings and conclusions under section 10  
 10 of this chapter.  
 11 (c) If during or after conclusion of the dispositional hearing **or**  
 12 **modification hearing** the juvenile court does not accept the  
 13 recommendations of the department as set out under subsection (a) in  
 14 the predispositional report and states that the juvenile court wants the  
 15 department to consider the recommendations made under subsection  
 16 (a)(2) or (a)(3), the dispositional hearing **or modification hearing**  
 17 shall be continued for not more than seven (7) business days after  
 18 service of notice of the juvenile court's determination. The department  
 19 shall consider the recommendations that the juvenile court requested  
 20 the department to consider and submit to the juvenile court a  
 21 supplemental predispositional report stating the department's final  
 22 recommendations and reasons for accepting or rejecting the  
 23 recommendations that were not included in the department's original  
 24 predispositional report. If the juvenile court accepts the  
 25 recommendations in the department's supplemental report, the juvenile  
 26 court may adopt the recommendations as its findings and enter its  
 27 dispositional decree.  
 28 (d) The juvenile court shall accept each final recommendation of the  
 29 department contained in a supplemental predispositional report  
 30 submitted under subsection (c), unless the juvenile court finds that a  
 31 recommendation is:  
 32 (1) unreasonable, based on the facts and circumstances of the  
 33 case; or  
 34 (2) contrary to the welfare and best interests of the child.  
 35 (e) If the juvenile court does not accept one (1) or more of the  
 36 department's final recommendations contained in the department's  
 37 supplemental predispositional report, the juvenile court shall:  
 38 (1) enter its dispositional decree with its written findings and  
 39 conclusions under sections 6 and 10 of this chapter; and  
 40 (2) specifically state why the juvenile court is not accepting the  
 41 final recommendations of the department.  
 42 (f) If the juvenile court enters its findings and decree under

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1 subsections (d) and (e), the department may appeal the juvenile court's  
2 decree under any available procedure provided by the Indiana Rules of  
3 Trial Procedure or the Indiana Rules of Appellate Procedure to allow  
4 any disputes arising under this section to be decided in an expeditious  
5 manner.

6 (g) If the department prevails on appeal, the department shall pay  
7 the following costs and expenses incurred by or on behalf of the child  
8 before the date of the final decision:

9 (1) Any programs or services implemented during the appeal  
10 initiated under subsection (f), other than the cost of an  
11 out-of-home placement ordered by the juvenile court.

12 (2) Any out-of-home placement ordered by the juvenile court and  
13 implemented after entry of the dispositional decree or  
14 modification order, if the court has made written findings that the  
15 placement is an emergency required to protect the health and  
16 welfare of the child.

17 If the court has not made written findings that the placement is an  
18 emergency, the county in which the juvenile court is located is  
19 responsible for payment of all costs of the placement, including the  
20 cost of services and programs provided by the home or facility where  
21 the child was placed.

22 SECTION 166. IC 31-34-20-1.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.162-2011,  
23 SECTION 50, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
24 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 1.5. (a) Except as provided in subsection (d), the  
25 juvenile court may not enter a dispositional decree approving or  
26 ordering placement of a child in another home under section 1(a)(3) of  
27 this chapter or awarding wardship to the department that will place the  
28 child in another home under section 1(a)(4) of this chapter if a person  
29 who is currently residing in the home in which the child would be  
30 placed under section 1(a)(3) or 1(a)(4) of this chapter has committed  
31 an act resulting in a substantiated report of child abuse or neglect, has  
32 a juvenile adjudication for an act that would be a felony listed in  
33 IC 31-27-4-13 if committed by an adult, or has a conviction for a felony  
34 listed in IC 31-27-4-13.

35 (b) The department or caseworker who prepared the predispositional  
36 report shall conduct a criminal history check (as defined in  
37 IC 31-9-2-22.5) to determine if a person described in subsection (a) has  
38 committed an act resulting in a substantiated report of child abuse or  
39 neglect, has a juvenile adjudication for an act that would be a felony  
40 listed in IC 31-27-4-13 if committed by an adult, or has a conviction for  
41 a felony listed in IC 31-27-4-13. However, the department or  
42 caseworker is not required to conduct a criminal history check under

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1 this section if criminal history information under IC 31-34-4-2 or  
2 IC 31-34-18-6.1 establishes whether a person described in subsection  
3 (a) has committed an act resulting in a substantiated report of child  
4 abuse or neglect, has a juvenile adjudication for an act that would be  
5 a felony listed in IC 31-27-4-13(a) if committed by an adult, or has a  
6 conviction for a felony listed in IC 31-27-4-13(a).

7 (c) The department or caseworker is not required to conduct a  
8 criminal history check under this section if:

9 (1) the department or caseworker is considering only an  
10 out-of-home placement to an entity or a facility that:

11 (A) is not a residence (as defined in IC 3-5-2-42.5); or

12 (B) is licensed by the state; or

13 (2) placement under this section is undetermined at the time the  
14 predispositional report is prepared.

15 (d) A juvenile court may enter a dispositional decree that approves  
16 placement of a child in another home or award wardship to the  
17 department that will place the child in a home with a person described  
18 in subsection (a) if:

19 (1) the person described in subsection (a) has:

20 (A) committed an act resulting in a substantiated report of  
21 child abuse or neglect;

22 (B) been convicted of:

23 (i) battery (IC 35-42-2-1) as a felony;

24 (ii) criminal confinement (IC 35-42-3-3) as a felony;

25 (iii) carjacking (IC 35-42-5-2) as a felony;

26 (iv) arson (IC 35-43-1-1) as a felony;

27 (v) a felony involving a weapon under IC 35-47 or  
28 IC 35-47.5;

29 (vi) a felony relating to controlled substances under  
30 IC 35-48-4; or

31 **(vii) a felony under IC 9-30-5; or**

32 ~~(vii)~~ **(viii)** a felony that is substantially equivalent to a felony  
33 listed in items (i) through ~~(vi)~~ **(vii)** for which the conviction  
34 was entered in another state;

35 if the conviction did not occur within the past five (5) years; or

36 (C) had a juvenile adjudication for an act listed in  
37 IC 31-27-4-13(a) that, if committed by an adult, would be a  
38 felony; and

39 (2) the person's commission of the offense, delinquent act, or act  
40 of abuse or neglect described in subdivision (1) is not relevant to  
41 the person's present ability to care for a child, and placing a child  
42 in another home or awarding wardship to the department is in the

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1 best interest of the child.  
2 However, a court may not enter a dispositional decree that approves  
3 placement of a child in another home or awards wardship to the  
4 department if the person has been convicted of a felony listed in  
5 IC 31-27-4-13(a) that is not specifically excluded under subdivision  
6 (1)(B).

7 (e) In considering the placement under subsection (d), the court  
8 shall consider the following:

9 (1) The length of time since the person committed the offense,  
10 delinquent act, or act that resulted in the substantiated report of  
11 abuse or neglect.

12 (2) The severity of the offense, delinquent act, or abuse or neglect.

13 (3) Evidence of the person's rehabilitation, including the person's  
14 cooperation with a treatment plan, if applicable.

15 SECTION 167. IC 31-34-21-0.2, AS ADDED BY P.L.220-2011,  
16 SECTION 516, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
17 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 0.2. At a child's first periodic case  
18 review occurring after June 30, 1998, the **county local office of family**  
19 **and children** is required to advise the child's parent, guardian, or  
20 custodian in writing that a petition to terminate the parent-child  
21 relationship must be filed with respect to the child after June 30, 1999,  
22 if the child has been removed from the child's parent and has been  
23 under the supervision of a **county local office of family and children** for  
24 at least fifteen (15) months of the most recent twenty-two (22) months.  
25 However, if a child's parent, guardian, or custodian fails to appear at  
26 the first periodic case review occurring after June 30, 1998, the **county**  
27 **local office of family and children** shall make reasonable efforts to  
28 send notice of the advisement to the last known address of the parent,  
29 guardian, or custodian.

30 SECTION 168. IC 31-34-21-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.72-2008,  
31 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
32 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 4. (a) Except as provided in subsection (f), at least  
33 seven (7) days before the periodic case review, including a case review  
34 that is a permanency hearing under section 7 of this chapter, the  
35 department shall provide notice of the review to each of the following:

36 (1) The child's parent, guardian, or custodian.

37 (2) An attorney who has entered an appearance on behalf of the  
38 child's parent, guardian, or custodian.

39 (3) A prospective adoptive parent named in a petition for adoption  
40 of the child filed under IC 31-19-2 if:

41 (A) each consent to adoption of the child that is required under  
42 IC 31-19-9-1 has been executed in the form and manner

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1 required by IC 31-19-9 and filed with the ~~county~~ **local** office;  
 2 (B) the court having jurisdiction in the adoption case has  
 3 determined under any applicable provision of IC 31-19-9 that  
 4 consent to adoption is not required from a parent, guardian, or  
 5 custodian; or  
 6 (C) a petition to terminate the parent-child relationship  
 7 between the child and any parent who has not executed a  
 8 written consent to adoption under IC 31-19-9-2 has been filed  
 9 under IC 31-35 and is pending.  
 10 (4) The child's foster parent or long term foster parent.  
 11 (5) Any other person who:  
 12 (A) the department has knowledge is currently providing care  
 13 for the child; and  
 14 (B) is not required to be licensed under IC 12-17.2 or IC 31-27  
 15 to provide care for the child.  
 16 (6) Any other suitable relative or person whom the department  
 17 knows has had a significant or caretaking relationship to the child.  
 18 (b) The department shall present proof of service of the notice  
 19 required by subsection (a) at the periodic case review.  
 20 (c) The department shall provide notices under this section as  
 21 provided in IC 31-32-1-4.  
 22 (d) The court shall provide to a person described in subsection (a)  
 23 an opportunity to be heard and to make any recommendations to the  
 24 court in a periodic case review, including a permanency hearing under  
 25 section 7 of this chapter. The right to be heard and to make  
 26 recommendations under this subsection includes:  
 27 (1) the right of a person described in subsection (a) to submit a  
 28 written statement to the court that, if served upon all parties to the  
 29 child in need of services proceeding and the persons described in  
 30 subsection (a), may be made a part of the court record; and  
 31 (2) the right to present oral testimony to the court and cross  
 32 examine any of the witnesses at the hearing.  
 33 (e) Except as provided in subsection (f), this section does not  
 34 exempt the department from sending a notice of the review to each  
 35 party to the child in need of services proceeding.  
 36 (f) If the parent of an abandoned child does not disclose the parent's  
 37 name as allowed by IC 31-34-2.5-1(c), the parent is not required to be  
 38 notified of a proceeding described in subsection (a).  
 39 SECTION 169. IC 31-34-21-7.3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.145-2006,  
 40 SECTION 323, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 41 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 7.3. (a) This section applies after:  
 42 (1) a court authorizes the filing of a petition to terminate the

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1 parent-child relationship; or  
 2 (2) a petition to terminate the parent-child relationship is filed;  
 3 in relation to a child in need of services.  
 4 (b) The department shall post the following nonidentifying  
 5 information on the Internet to facilitate a potential adoptive placement  
 6 of the child:  
 7 (1) The child's age, gender, and summary of the child's  
 8 educational, social, and medical background, including known  
 9 disabilities.  
 10 (2) The reason the child was removed from the child's home.  
 11 (3) Whether a person has expressed an interest in adopting the  
 12 child.  
 13 (4) The name, address, and telephone number of a contact person  
 14 from:  
 15 (A) the department;  
 16 (B) the appropriate **county local** office; or  
 17 (C) licensed child placing agency;  
 18 where a person who may be interested in adopting the child may  
 19 obtain further information about adopting the child.  
 20 (5) Whether a petition to terminate the rights of the child's parents  
 21 has been authorized or filed, and whether the rights of the child's  
 22 parents have been terminated.  
 23 (6) An address and telephone number of:  
 24 (A) the department;  
 25 (B) the appropriate **county local** office; or  
 26 (C) licensed child placing agency;  
 27 where a person who may be interested in adopting the child may  
 28 obtain further information about adopting the child.  
 29 (c) The information posted under subsection (b) may not identify the  
 30 name of any of the following persons:  
 31 (1) The child.  
 32 (2) The child's biological or adoptive parents.  
 33 (3) A sibling of the child.  
 34 (4) A caretaker of the child.  
 35 (d) The department shall update any relevant information under this  
 36 section after either of the following:  
 37 (1) Each of the child's periodic reviews that occur after the  
 38 information under this section is required to be posted.  
 39 (2) The rights of the child's parents have been terminated.  
 40 (e) The department shall remove the information required under  
 41 subsection (b) from the Internet whenever the child is reunited with the  
 42 child's family or an adoption of the child is filed under IC 31-19-2.

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1 (f) Upon request, the department shall inform the person making the  
2 request of the address of the Internet web site containing the  
3 information described in this section.

4 SECTION 170. IC 31-34-21-7.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.146-2008,  
5 SECTION 608, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
6 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 7.5. (a) Except as provided in  
7 subsection (d), the juvenile court may not approve a permanency plan  
8 under subsection (c)(1)(D), (c)(1)(E), or (c)(1)(F) if a person who is  
9 currently residing with a person described in subsection (c)(1)(D) or  
10 (c)(1)(E) or in a residence in which the child would be placed under  
11 subsection (c)(1)(F) has committed an act resulting in a substantiated  
12 report of child abuse or neglect, has a juvenile adjudication for an act  
13 that would be a felony listed in IC 31-27-4-13 if committed by an adult,  
14 or has a conviction for a felony listed in IC 31-27-4-13.

15 (b) Before requesting juvenile court approval of a permanency plan,  
16 the department shall conduct a criminal history check (as defined in  
17 IC 31-9-2-22.5) to determine if a person described in subsection (a) has  
18 committed an act resulting in a substantiated report of child abuse or  
19 neglect, has a juvenile adjudication for an act that would be a felony  
20 listed in IC 31-27-4-13 if committed by an adult, or has a conviction for  
21 a felony listed in IC 31-27-4-13. However, the department is not  
22 required to conduct a criminal history check under this section if  
23 criminal history information under IC 31-34-4-2, IC 31-34-18-6.1, or  
24 IC 31-34-20-1.5 establishes whether a person described in subsection  
25 (a) has committed an act resulting in a substantiated report of child  
26 abuse or neglect, has a juvenile adjudication for an act that would be  
27 a felony listed in IC 31-27-4-13 if committed by an adult, or has a  
28 conviction for a felony listed in IC 31-27-4-13.

29 (c) A permanency plan under this chapter includes the following:

30 (1) The intended permanent or long term arrangements for care  
31 and custody of the child that may include any of the following  
32 arrangements that the department or the court considers most  
33 appropriate and consistent with the best interests of the child:

34 (A) Return to or continuation of existing custodial care within  
35 the home of the child's parent, guardian, or custodian or  
36 placement of the child with the child's noncustodial parent.

37 (B) Initiation of a proceeding for termination of the  
38 parent-child relationship under IC 31-35.

39 (C) Placement of the child for adoption.

40 (D) Placement of the child with a responsible person,  
41 including:

42 (i) an adult sibling;

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- 1 (ii) a grandparent;
- 2 (iii) an aunt;
- 3 (iv) an uncle; or
- 4 (v) another relative;
- 5 who is able and willing to act as the child's permanent
- 6 custodian and carry out the responsibilities required by the
- 7 permanency plan.
- 8 (E) Appointment of a legal guardian. The legal guardian
- 9 appointed under this section is a caretaker in a judicially
- 10 created relationship between the child and caretaker that is
- 11 intended to be permanent and self-sustaining as evidenced by
- 12 the transfer to the caretaker of the following parental rights
- 13 with respect to the child:
- 14 (i) Care, custody, and control of the child.
- 15 (ii) Decision making concerning the child's upbringing.
- 16 (F) Placement of the child in another planned, permanent
- 17 living arrangement.
- 18 (2) A time schedule for implementing the applicable provisions
- 19 of the permanency plan.
- 20 (3) Provisions for temporary or interim arrangements for care and
- 21 custody of the child, pending completion of implementation of the
- 22 permanency plan.
- 23 (4) Other items required to be included in a case plan under
- 24 IC 31-34-15 or federal law, consistent with the permanent or long
- 25 term arrangements described by the permanency plan.
- 26 (d) A juvenile court may approve a permanency plan if:
- 27 (1) a person described in subsection (a) has:
- 28 (A) committed an act resulting in a substantiated report of
- 29 child abuse or neglect; or
- 30 (B) been convicted ~~of~~; ~~or had a juvenile adjudication for~~:
- 31 (i) ~~reckless homicide (IC 35-42-1-5);~~
- 32 (ii) ~~(i) battery (IC 35-42-2-1); as a Class C or D felony;~~
- 33 (iii) ~~(ii) criminal confinement (IC 35-42-3-3) as a Class C or~~
- 34 ~~D felony;~~
- 35 **(iii) carjacking (IC 35-42-5-2);**
- 36 (iv) arson (IC 35-43-1-1) as a ~~Class C or D felony;~~
- 37 (v) a felony involving a weapon under IC 35-47 or **a felony**
- 38 **involving controlled explosives under IC 35-47.5; as a**
- 39 **Class C or D felony;**
- 40 (vi) a felony relating to controlled substances under
- 41 IC 35-48-4; as a ~~Class C or D felony; or~~
- 42 **(vii) a felony under IC 9-30-5; or**

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1            ~~(vii)~~ **(viii)** a felony that is substantially equivalent to a felony  
 2            listed in items (i) through ~~(vi)~~ **(vii)** for which the conviction  
 3            was entered in another state; ~~and~~  
 4            **if the conviction did not occur within the past five (5)**  
 5            **years; or**  
 6            **(C) had a juvenile adjudication for an act listed in**  
 7            **IC 31-27-4-13(a) that, if committed by an adult, would be**  
 8            **a felony; and**  
 9            (2) ~~the court makes a written finding that~~ the person's commission  
 10           of the offense, delinquent act, or act of abuse or neglect described  
 11           in subdivision (1) is not relevant to the person's present ability to  
 12           care for a child, and that approval of the permanency plan is in the  
 13           best interest of the child.

14           However, a court may not approve a permanency plan if the person has  
 15           been convicted of a felony listed in IC 31-27-4-13 that is not  
 16           specifically excluded under subdivision (1)(B), or has a juvenile  
 17           adjudication for an act that would be a felony listed in IC 31-27-4-13  
 18           if committed by an adult that is not specifically excluded under  
 19           subdivision (1)(B).

20           (e) In making its written finding under subsection (d), the court shall  
 21           consider the following:

- 22           (1) The length of time since the person committed the offense,  
 23           delinquent act, or act that resulted in the substantiated report of  
 24           abuse or neglect.
- 25           (2) The severity of the offense, delinquent act, or abuse or neglect.
- 26           (3) Evidence of the person's rehabilitation, including the person's  
 27           cooperation with a treatment plan, if applicable.

28           SECTION 171. IC 31-35-1-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.146-2007,  
 29           SECTION 12, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 30           JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 4. (a) If requested by the parents:

- 31           (1) the ~~county local~~ office; ~~of family and children;~~ or
  - 32           (2) a licensed child placing agency;
- 33           may sign and file a verified petition with the juvenile or probate court  
 34           for the voluntary termination of the parent-child relationship.

- 35           (b) The petition must:
  - 36           (1) be entitled "In the Matter of the Termination of the  
 37           Parent-Child Relationship of \_\_\_\_\_, a child, and  
 38           \_\_\_\_\_, the child's parent (or parents)"; and
  - 39           (2) allege that:
    - 40           (A) the parents are the child's natural or adoptive parents;
    - 41           (B) the parents, including the alleged or adjudicated father if  
 42           the child was born out of wedlock:

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- 1 (i) knowingly and voluntarily consent to the termination of
- 2 the parent-child relationship; or
- 3 (ii) are not required to consent to the termination of the
- 4 parent-child relationship under section 6(c) of this chapter;
- 5 (C) termination is in the child's best interest; and
- 6 (D) the petitioner has developed a satisfactory plan of care and
- 7 treatment for the child.

8 SECTION 172. IC 31-35-1-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.146-2007,  
 9 SECTION 15, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 10 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 12. For purposes of sections 6 and 8 of this  
 11 chapter, the parents must be advised that:

- 12 (1) their consent is permanent and cannot be revoked or set aside
- 13 unless it was obtained by fraud or duress or unless the parent is
- 14 incompetent;
- 15 (2) when the court terminates the parent-child relationship:
- 16 (A) all rights, powers, privileges, immunities, duties, and
- 17 obligations, including any rights to custody, control, parenting
- 18 time, or support pertaining to the relationship, are permanently
- 19 terminated; and
- 20 (B) their consent to the child's adoption is not required;
- 21 (3) the parents have a right to the:
- 22 (A) care;
- 23 (B) custody; and
- 24 (C) control;
- 25 of their child as long as the parents fulfill their parental
- 26 obligations;
- 27 (4) the parents have a right to a judicial determination of any
- 28 alleged failure to fulfill their parental obligations in a proceeding
- 29 to adjudicate their child a delinquent child or a child in need of
- 30 services;
- 31 (5) the parents have a right to assistance in fulfilling their parental
- 32 obligations after a court has determined that the parents are not
- 33 doing so;
- 34 (6) proceedings to terminate the parent-child relationship against
- 35 the will of the parents can be initiated only after:
- 36 (A) the child has been adjudicated a delinquent child or a child
- 37 in need of services and removed from their custody following
- 38 the adjudication; or
- 39 (B) a parent has been convicted and imprisoned for an offense
- 40 listed in IC 31-35-3-4 (or has been convicted and imprisoned
- 41 for an offense listed in IC 31-6-5-4.2(a) before its repeal), the
- 42 child has been removed from the custody of the parents under

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1 a dispositional decree, and the child has been removed from  
 2 the custody of the parents for six (6) months under a court  
 3 order;  
 4 (7) the parents are entitled to representation by counsel, provided  
 5 by the state if necessary, throughout any proceedings to terminate  
 6 the parent-child relationship against the will of the parents; ~~and~~  
 7 (8) the parents will receive notice of the hearing, unless notice is  
 8 waived under section 5(b) of this chapter, at which the court will  
 9 decide if their consent was voluntary, and the parents may appear  
 10 at the hearing and allege that the consent was not voluntary; **and**  
 11 **(9) the parents' consent cannot be based upon a promise**  
 12 **regarding the child's adoption or contact of any type with the**  
 13 **child after the parents voluntarily relinquish their parental**  
 14 **rights of the child after entry of an order under this chapter**  
 15 **terminating the parent-child relationship.**

16 SECTION 173. IC 31-35-2-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.21-2010,  
 17 SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 18 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 4. (a) A petition to terminate the parent-child  
 19 relationship involving a delinquent child or a child in need of services  
 20 may be signed and filed with the juvenile or probate court by any of the  
 21 following:

- 22 (1) The attorney for the department.
- 23 (2) The child's court appointed special advocate.
- 24 (3) The child's guardian ad litem.
- 25 (b) The petition must meet the following requirements:
- 26 (1) The petition must be entitled "In the Matter of the Termination
- 27 of the Parent-Child Relationship of \_\_\_\_\_, a child, and
- 28 \_\_\_\_\_, the child's parent (or parents)".
- 29 (2) The petition must allege:
- 30 (A) that one (1) of the following is true:
- 31 (i) The child has been removed from the parent for at least
- 32 six (6) months under a dispositional decree.
- 33 (ii) A court has entered a finding under IC 31-34-21-5.6 that
- 34 reasonable efforts for family preservation or reunification
- 35 are not required, including a description of the court's
- 36 finding, the date of the finding, and the manner in which the
- 37 finding was made.
- 38 (iii) The child has been removed from the parent and has
- 39 been under the supervision of a **county local** office ~~of family~~
- 40 ~~and children~~ or probation department for at least fifteen (15)
- 41 months of the most recent twenty-two (22) months,
- 42 beginning with the date the child is removed from the home

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1 as a result of the child being alleged to be a child in need of  
 2 services or a delinquent child;  
 3 (B) that one (1) of the following is true:  
 4 (i) There is a reasonable probability that the conditions that  
 5 resulted in the child's removal or the reasons for placement  
 6 outside the home of the parents will not be remedied.  
 7 (ii) There is a reasonable probability that the continuation of  
 8 the parent-child relationship poses a threat to the well-being  
 9 of the child.  
 10 (iii) The child has, on two (2) separate occasions, been  
 11 adjudicated a child in need of services;  
 12 (C) that termination is in the best interests of the child; and  
 13 (D) that there is a satisfactory plan for the care and treatment  
 14 of the child.  
 15 (3) The petition must indicate whether at least one (1) of the  
 16 factors listed in section 4.5(d)(1) through 4.5(d)(3) of this chapter  
 17 applies and specify each factor that would apply as the basis for  
 18 filing a motion to dismiss the petition.  
 19 SECTION 174. IC 31-35-2-6.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.162-2011,  
 20 SECTION 53, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 21 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 6.5. (a) This section applies to hearings under this  
 22 chapter relating to a child in need of services.  
 23 (b) At least ten (10) days before a hearing on a petition or motion  
 24 under this chapter:  
 25 (1) the person or entity who filed the petition to terminate the  
 26 parent-child relationship under section 4 of this chapter; or  
 27 (2) the person or entity who filed a motion to dismiss the petition  
 28 to terminate the parent-child relationship under section 4.5(d) of  
 29 this chapter;  
 30 shall send notice of the review to the persons listed in subsections (c)  
 31 and (d).  
 32 (c) Except as provided in subsection (h), the following persons shall  
 33 receive notice of a hearing on a petition or motion filed under this  
 34 chapter:  
 35 (1) The child's parent, guardian, or custodian.  
 36 (2) An attorney who has entered an appearance on behalf of the  
 37 child's parent, guardian, or custodian.  
 38 (3) A prospective adoptive parent named in a petition for adoption  
 39 of the child filed under IC 31-19-2 if:  
 40 (A) each consent to adoption of the child that is required under  
 41 IC 31-19-9-1 has been executed in the form and manner  
 42 required by IC 31-19-9 and filed with the **county local** office

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- 1 or the department;
- 2 (B) the court having jurisdiction in the adoption case has
- 3 determined under an applicable provision of IC 31-19-9 that
- 4 consent to adoption is not required from a parent, guardian, or
- 5 custodian; or
- 6 (C) a petition to terminate the parent-child relationship
- 7 between the child and any parent who has not executed a
- 8 written consent to adoption under IC 31-19-9-2, has been filed
- 9 under IC 31-35 and is pending.
- 10 (4) Any other person who:
- 11 (A) the department has knowledge is currently providing care
- 12 for the child; and
- 13 (B) is not required to be licensed under IC 12-17.2 or IC 31-27
- 14 to provide care for the child.
- 15 (5) Any other suitable relative or person who the department
- 16 knows has had a significant or caretaking relationship to the child.
- 17 (6) Any other party to the child in need of services proceeding.
- 18 (d) At least ten (10) days before a hearing on a petition or motion
- 19 under this chapter, the department shall provide notice of the hearing
- 20 to the child's foster parent by:
- 21 (1) certified mail; or
- 22 (2) face to face contact by the department caseworker.
- 23 (e) The court shall provide to a person described in subsection (c)
- 24 or (d) an opportunity to be heard and make recommendations to the
- 25 court at the hearing. The right to be heard and to make
- 26 recommendations under this subsection includes the right of a person
- 27 described in subsection (c) or (d) to submit a written statement to the
- 28 court that, if served upon all parties to the child in need of services
- 29 proceeding and the persons described in subsections (c) and (d), may
- 30 be made a part of the court record.
- 31 (f) The court shall continue the hearing if, at the time of the hearing,
- 32 the department has not provided the court with signed verification from
- 33 the foster parent, as obtained through subsection (d), that the foster
- 34 parent has been notified of the hearing at least five (5) business days
- 35 before the hearing. However, the court is not required to continue the
- 36 hearing if the child's foster parent appears for the hearing.
- 37 (g) A person described in subsection (c)(2) through (c)(5) or
- 38 subsection (d) does not become a party to a proceeding under this
- 39 chapter as the result of the person's right to notice and the opportunity
- 40 to be heard under this section.
- 41 (h) If the parent of an abandoned child does not disclose the parent's
- 42 name as allowed by IC 31-34-2.5-1(c) **or indicates that the child is**

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1 **being abandoned under IC 31-34-2.5**, the parent is not required to be  
 2 notified of a hearing described in subsection (c).  
 3 SECTION 175. IC 31-35-2-8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 4 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 8. (a) Except as  
 5 provided in section 4.5(d) of this chapter, if the court finds that the  
 6 allegations in a petition described in section 4 of this chapter are true,  
 7 the court shall terminate the parent-child relationship.  
 8 (b) If the court does not find that the allegations in the petition are  
 9 true, the court shall dismiss the petition.  
 10 **(c) The court shall enter findings of fact that support the entry**  
 11 **of the conclusions required by subsections (a) and (b).**  
 12 SECTION 176. IC 31-37-17-8, AS ADDED BY P.L.131-2009,  
 13 SECTION 69, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 14 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 8. Unless prohibited by federal law, a probation  
 15 department and:  
 16 (1) the division of family resources;  
 17 (2) a **county local** office; and  
 18 (3) the department of child services;  
 19 may exchange information for use in preparing a report under this  
 20 chapter.  
 21 SECTION 177. IC 31-37-20-4.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.138-2007,  
 22 SECTION 86, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 23 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 4.5. (a) At least ten (10) days before a hearing  
 24 under section 2 or 3 of this chapter, the probation department shall  
 25 send notice of the hearing to each of the following:  
 26 (1) The child's parent, guardian, or custodian.  
 27 (2) An attorney who has entered an appearance on behalf of the  
 28 child's parent, guardian, or custodian.  
 29 (3) The child or an attorney who has entered an appearance on  
 30 behalf of the child.  
 31 (4) A prospective adoptive parent named in a petition for adoption  
 32 of the child filed under IC 31-19-2 if:  
 33 (A) each consent to adoption of the child that is required under  
 34 IC 31-19-9-1 has been executed in the form and manner  
 35 required by IC 31-19-9 and filed with the **county local** office;  
 36 (B) the court having jurisdiction in the adoption case has  
 37 determined under any applicable provision of IC 31-19-9 that  
 38 consent to adoption is not required from a parent, guardian, or  
 39 custodian; or  
 40 (C) a petition to terminate the parent-child relationship  
 41 between the child and any parent who has not executed a  
 42 written consent to adoption under IC 31-19-9-2 has been filed

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- 1 under IC 31-35 and is pending.
- 2 (5) Any other person who:
- 3 (A) the probation department has knowledge is currently
- 4 providing care for the child; and
- 5 (B) is not required to be licensed under IC 12-17.2 or IC 31-27
- 6 to provide care for the child.
- 7 (6) Any other suitable relative or person whom the probation
- 8 department knows has had a significant or caretaking relationship
- 9 to the child.
- 10 (b) The court shall provide to a person described in subsection (a)
- 11 an opportunity to be heard and to make any recommendations to the
- 12 court in a hearing under section 2 or 3 of this chapter. The right to be
- 13 heard and to make recommendations under this subsection includes:
- 14 (1) the right of a person described in subsection (a) to submit a
- 15 written statement to the court that, if served upon all parties to the
- 16 delinquency proceeding and the persons described in subsection
- 17 (a), may be made a part of the court record; and
- 18 (2) the right to present oral testimony to the court and
- 19 cross-examine any of the witnesses at the hearing.
- 20 (c) This section does not exempt the probation department from
- 21 sending a notice of the review to each party to the delinquency
- 22 proceeding.
- 23 (d) The court shall continue the hearing if, at the time set for the
- 24 hearing, the probation department has not provided the court with a
- 25 signed verification that any person required to be notified under this
- 26 section has been notified in the manner stated in the verification, unless
- 27 the person appears for the hearing.
- 28 SECTION 178. IC 31-39-2-6, AS AMENDED BY
- 29 P.L.182-2009(ss), SECTION 384, IS AMENDED TO READ AS
- 30 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 6. The records of the
- 31 juvenile court are available without a court order to:
- 32 (1) the attorney for the department of child services; or
- 33 (2) any authorized staff member of:
- 34 (A) the ~~county~~ **local** office;
- 35 (B) the department of child services;
- 36 (C) the department of correction; or
- 37 (D) the department of child services ombudsman established
- 38 by IC 4-13-19-3.
- 39 SECTION 179. IC 33-32-4-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.145-2006,
- 40 SECTION 365, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
- 41 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 2. (a) As used in this chapter,
- 42 "Indiana support enforcement tracking system (ISETS)" refers to the

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1 statewide automated system for the collection, disbursement, and  
2 distribution of child support payments established by the department  
3 of child services.

4 **(b) As used in this chapter, "successor statewide automated**  
5 **support enforcement system" means a statewide automated system**  
6 **for the collection, disbursement, and distribution of child support**  
7 **payments established by the department of child services.**

8 SECTION 180. IC 33-32-4-2.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA  
9 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
10 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: **Sec. 2.5. The Indiana support**  
11 **enforcement tracking system (ISETS) or the successor statewide**  
12 **automated support enforcement system is the official record of the**  
13 **collection, disbursement, and distribution of child support**  
14 **payments as required under 42 U.S.C. 654.**

15 SECTION 181. IC 33-32-4-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.148-2006,  
16 SECTION 31, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
17 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 5. The state central collection unit is not liable and  
18 the clerk is not personally liable or liable in the clerk's official capacity  
19 on the clerk's official bond for funds received if the state central  
20 collection unit or the clerk:

21 (1) through error or in accordance with the best information  
22 available to the state central collection unit or the clerk, disbursed  
23 the funds to a person the state central collection unit or the clerk  
24 reasonably believed to be entitled to receive the funds and to  
25 comply with a:

26 (A) child support order; or

27 (B) garnishment order;

28 (2) inappropriately disbursed or misapplied child support funds,  
29 arising without the knowledge or approval of the state central  
30 collection unit or the clerk, that resulted from:

31 (A) an action by an employee of, or a consultant to, the  
32 department of child services or the Title IV-D agency;

33 (B) an ISETS or the successor statewide automated support  
34 enforcement system technological error; or

35 (C) information generated by ISETS or the successor  
36 statewide automated support enforcement system;

37 (3) disbursed funds that the state central collection unit or the  
38 clerk reasonably believed were available for disbursement but that  
39 were not actually available for disbursement;

40 (4) disbursed child support funds paid to the central collection  
41 unit by a personal check that was later dishonored by a financial  
42 institution; and

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1 (5) did not commit a criminal offense as a part of the  
 2 disbursement.  
 3 SECTION 182. IC 33-37-5-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.229-2011,  
 4 SECTION 257, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 5 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 2. (a) Each clerk shall establish a  
 6 clerk's record perpetuation fund. The clerk shall deposit all the  
 7 following in the fund:  
 8 (1) Revenue received by the clerk for transmitting documents by  
 9 facsimile machine to a person under IC 5-14-3.  
 10 (2) Document storage fees required under section 20 of this  
 11 chapter.  
 12 (3) The late payment fees imposed under section 22 of this  
 13 chapter that are authorized for deposit in the clerk's record  
 14 perpetuation fund under IC 33-37-7-2.  
 15 (4) The fees required under IC 29-1-7-3.1 for deposit of a will.  
 16 (5) Automated record keeping fees deposited in the fund under  
 17 ~~IC 33-37-7-2(n)~~. **IC 33-37-7-2(m)**.  
 18 (b) The clerk may use any money in the fund for the following  
 19 purposes:  
 20 (1) The preservation of records.  
 21 (2) The improvement of record keeping systems and equipment.  
 22 (3) Case management system.  
 23 SECTION 183. IC 33-37-5-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.103-2007,  
 24 SECTION 49, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 25 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 6. (a) This section applies to an action in which a  
 26 final court order requires a person to pay support or maintenance  
 27 payments through the clerk or the state central collection unit.  
 28 (b) The clerk or the state central collection unit shall collect a fee in  
 29 addition to support and maintenance payments. The fee is fifty-five  
 30 dollars (\$55) for each calendar year.  
 31 (c) The fee required under subsection (b) is due at the time that the  
 32 first support or maintenance payment for the calendar year in which the  
 33 fee must be paid is due.  
 34 (d) The clerk may not deduct the fee from a support or maintenance  
 35 payment.  
 36 (e) Except as provided under IC 33-32-4-6 and ~~IC 33-37-7-2(g)~~,  
 37 **IC 33-37-7-2(f)**, if a fee is collected under this section by the clerk, the  
 38 clerk shall forward the fee to the county auditor in accordance with  
 39 IC 33-37-7-12(a). If a fee is collected under this section by the central  
 40 collection unit, the fee shall be deposited in the state general fund.  
 41 (f) Income payors required to withhold income under IC 31-16-15  
 42 shall pay the annual fee required by subsection (b) through the income

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1 withholding procedures described in IC 31-16-15.  
 2 SECTION 184. IC 33-37-7-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.229-2011,  
 3 SECTION 260, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 4 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 2. (a) The clerk of a circuit court  
 5 shall distribute semiannually to the auditor of state as the state share for  
 6 deposit in the homeowner protection unit account established by  
 7 IC 4-6-12-9 one hundred percent (100%) of the automated record  
 8 keeping fees collected under IC 33-37-5-21 with respect to actions  
 9 resulting in the accused person entering into a pretrial diversion  
 10 program agreement under IC 33-39-1-8 or a deferral program  
 11 agreement under IC 34-28-5-1 and for deposit in the state general fund  
 12 seventy percent (70%) of the amount of fees collected under the  
 13 following:  
 14 (1) IC 33-37-4-1(a) (criminal costs fees).  
 15 (2) IC 33-37-4-2(a) (infraction or ordinance violation costs fees).  
 16 (3) IC 33-37-4-3(a) (juvenile costs fees).  
 17 (4) IC 33-37-4-4(a) (civil costs fees).  
 18 (5) IC 33-37-4-6(a)(1)(A) (small claims costs fees).  
 19 (6) IC 33-37-4-7(a) (probate costs fees).  
 20 (7) IC 33-37-5-17 (deferred prosecution fees).  
 21 (b) The clerk of a circuit court shall distribute semiannually to the  
 22 auditor of state for deposit in the state user fee fund established in  
 23 IC 33-37-9-2 the following:  
 24 (1) Twenty-five percent (25%) of the drug abuse, prosecution,  
 25 interdiction, and correction fees collected under  
 26 IC 33-37-4-1(b)(5).  
 27 (2) Twenty-five percent (25%) of the alcohol and drug  
 28 countermeasures fees collected under IC 33-37-4-1(b)(6),  
 29 IC 33-37-4-2(b)(4), and IC 33-37-4-3(b)(5).  
 30 (3) **Fifty One hundred percent (50%) (100%)** of the child abuse  
 31 prevention fees collected under IC 33-37-4-1(b)(7).  
 32 (4) One hundred percent (100%) of the domestic violence  
 33 prevention and treatment fees collected under IC 33-37-4-1(b)(8).  
 34 (5) One hundred percent (100%) of the highway work zone fees  
 35 collected under IC 33-37-4-1(b)(9) and IC 33-37-4-2(b)(5).  
 36 (6) One hundred percent (100%) of the safe schools fee collected  
 37 under IC 33-37-5-18.  
 38 (7) The following:  
 39 (A) For a county operating under the state's automated judicial  
 40 system, one hundred percent (100%) of the automated record  
 41 keeping fee (IC 33-37-5-21) not distributed under subsection  
 42 (a).

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1 (B) For a county not operating under the state's automated  
2 judicial system, eighty percent (80%) of the automated record  
3 keeping fee (IC 33-37-5-21) not distributed under subsection  
4 (a).

5 (c) The clerk of a circuit court shall distribute monthly to the county  
6 auditor the following:

7 (1) Seventy-five percent (75%) of the drug abuse, prosecution,  
8 interdiction, and correction fees collected under  
9 IC 33-37-4-1(b)(5).

10 (2) Seventy-five percent (75%) of the alcohol and drug  
11 countermeasures fees collected under IC 33-37-4-1(b)(6),  
12 IC 33-37-4-2(b)(4), and IC 33-37-4-3(b)(5).

13 The county auditor shall deposit fees distributed by a clerk under this  
14 subsection into the county drug free community fund established under  
15 IC 5-2-11.

16 ~~(d) The clerk of a circuit court shall distribute monthly to the county~~  
17 ~~auditor fifty percent (50%) of the child abuse prevention fees collected~~  
18 ~~under IC 33-37-4-1(b)(7). The county auditor shall deposit fees~~  
19 ~~distributed by a clerk under this subsection into the county child~~  
20 ~~advocacy fund established under IC 12-17-17.~~

21 (e) (d) The clerk of a circuit court shall distribute monthly to the  
22 county auditor one hundred percent (100%) of the late payment fees  
23 collected under IC 33-37-5-22. The county auditor shall deposit fees  
24 distributed by a clerk under this subsection as follows:

25 (1) If directed to do so by an ordinance adopted by the county  
26 fiscal body, the county auditor shall deposit forty percent (40%)  
27 of the fees in the clerk's record perpetuation fund established  
28 under IC 33-37-5-2 and sixty percent (60%) of the fees in the  
29 county general fund.

30 (2) If the county fiscal body has not adopted an ordinance  
31 described in subdivision (1), the county auditor shall deposit all  
32 the fees in the county general fund.

33 (f) (e) The clerk of the circuit court shall distribute semiannually to  
34 the auditor of state for deposit in the sexual assault victims assistance  
35 account established by IC 5-2-6-23(h) one hundred percent (100%) of  
36 the sexual assault victims assistance fees collected under  
37 IC 33-37-5-23.

38 (g) (f) The clerk of a circuit court shall distribute monthly to the  
39 county auditor the following:

40 (1) One hundred percent (100%) of the support and maintenance  
41 fees for cases designated as non-Title IV-D child support cases in  
42 the Indiana support enforcement tracking system (ISETS) or the

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1           **successor statewide automated support enforcement system**  
2           collected under IC 33-37-5-6.  
3           (2) The percentage share of the support and maintenance fees for  
4           cases designated as **Title IV-D child support cases in ISETS or**  
5           **the successor statewide automated support enforcement**  
6           **system** collected under IC 33-37-5-6 that is reimbursable to the  
7           county at the federal financial participation rate.  
8           The county clerk shall distribute monthly to the ~~office of the secretary~~  
9           ~~of family and social services~~ **department of child services** the  
10          percentage share of the support and maintenance fees for cases  
11          designated as Title IV-D child support cases in ISETS, **or the**  
12          **successor statewide automated support enforcement system,**  
13          collected under IC 33-37-5-6 that is not reimbursable to the county at  
14          the applicable federal financial participation rate.  
15          ~~(h)~~ **(g)** The clerk of a circuit court shall distribute monthly to the  
16          county auditor the following:  
17                  (1) One hundred percent (100%) of the small claims service fee  
18                  under IC 33-37-4-6(a)(1)(B) or IC 33-37-4-6(a)(2) for deposit in  
19                  the county general fund.  
20                  (2) One hundred percent (100%) of the small claims garnishee  
21                  service fee under IC 33-37-4-6(a)(1)(C) or IC 33-37-4-6(a)(3) for  
22                  deposit in the county general fund.  
23          ~~(i)~~ **(h)** This subsection does not apply to court administration fees  
24          collected in small claims actions filed in a court described in IC 33-34.  
25          The clerk of a circuit court shall semiannually distribute to the auditor  
26          of state for deposit in the state general fund one hundred percent  
27          (100%) of the following:  
28                  (1) The public defense administration fee collected under  
29                  IC 33-37-5-21.2.  
30                  (2) The judicial salaries fees collected under IC 33-37-5-26.  
31                  (3) The DNA sample processing fees collected under  
32                  IC 33-37-5-26.2.  
33                  (4) The court administration fees collected under IC 33-37-5-27.  
34          ~~(j)~~ **(i)** The clerk of a circuit court shall semiannually distribute to the  
35          auditor of state for deposit in the judicial branch insurance adjustment  
36          account established by IC 33-38-5-8.2 one hundred percent (100%) of  
37          the judicial insurance adjustment fee collected under IC 33-37-5-25.  
38          ~~(k)~~ **(j)** The proceeds of the service fee collected under  
39          IC 33-37-5-28(b)(1) or IC 33-37-5-28(b)(2) shall be distributed as  
40          follows:  
41                  (1) The clerk shall distribute one hundred percent (100%) of the  
42                  service fees collected in a circuit, superior, county, or probate

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1 court to the county auditor for deposit in the county general fund.  
2 (2) The clerk shall distribute one hundred percent (100%) of the  
3 service fees collected in a city or town court to the city or town  
4 fiscal officer for deposit in the city or town general fund.

5 ~~(h)~~ (k) The proceeds of the garnishee service fee collected under  
6 IC 33-37-5-28(b)(3) or IC 33-37-5-28(b)(4) shall be distributed as  
7 follows:

8 (1) The clerk shall distribute one hundred percent (100%) of the  
9 garnishee service fees collected in a circuit, superior, county, or  
10 probate court to the county auditor for deposit in the county  
11 general fund.

12 (2) The clerk shall distribute one hundred percent (100%) of the  
13 garnishee service fees collected in a city or town court to the city  
14 or town fiscal officer for deposit in the city or town general fund.

15 ~~(m)~~ (l) The clerk of the circuit court shall distribute semiannually to  
16 the auditor of state for deposit in the home ownership education  
17 account established by IC 5-20-1-27 one hundred percent (100%) of  
18 the following:

19 (1) The mortgage foreclosure counseling and education fees  
20 collected under IC 33-37-5-30 (before its expiration on January  
21 1, 2013).

22 (2) Any civil penalties imposed and collected by a court for a  
23 violation of a court order in a foreclosure action under  
24 IC 32-30-10.5.

25 ~~(n)~~ (m) This subsection applies to a county that is not operating  
26 under the state's automated judicial system. The clerk of a circuit court  
27 shall distribute monthly to the county auditor twenty percent (20%) of  
28 the automated record keeping fee (IC 33-37-5-21) not distributed under  
29 subsection (a) for deposit in the clerk's record perpetuation fund.

30 SECTION 185. IC 36-2-14-6.3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.131-2009,  
31 SECTION 75, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
32 JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 6.3. (a) A coroner shall immediately notify:

33 (1) the ~~county~~ local office of the department of child services by  
34 using the statewide hotline for the department; and

35 (2) either:  
36 (A) the local child fatality review team; or  
37 (B) if the county does not have a local child fatality review  
38 team, the statewide child fatality review committee;

39 of each death of a person who is less than eighteen (18) years of age,  
40 or appears to be less than eighteen (18) years of age and who has died  
41 in an apparently suspicious, unexpected, or unexplained manner.

42 (b) If a child less than eighteen (18) years of age dies in an

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1       apparently suspicious, unexpected, or unexplained manner, the coroner  
2       shall consult with a child death pathologist to determine whether an  
3       autopsy is necessary. If the coroner and the child death pathologist  
4       disagree over the need for an autopsy, the county prosecutor shall  
5       determine whether an autopsy is necessary. If the autopsy is considered  
6       necessary, a child death pathologist or a pathology resident acting  
7       under the direct supervision of a child death pathologist shall conduct  
8       the autopsy within twenty-four (24) hours. If the autopsy is not  
9       considered necessary, the autopsy shall not be conducted.  
10       (c) If a child death pathologist and coroner agree under subsection  
11       (b) that an autopsy is necessary, the child death pathologist or a  
12       pathology resident acting under the direct supervision of a child death  
13       pathologist shall conduct the autopsy of the child.

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## COMMITTEE REPORT

Madam President: The Senate Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 287, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill be AMENDED as follows:

Page 9, line 33, after "office" delete ".".

Page 12, line 8, delete "alternative" and insert "**alternatives**".

Page 72, line 38, delete "or facility".

Page 80, line 5, delete "or facility".

Page 84, between lines 5 and 6, begin a new paragraph and insert:  
"SECTION 126. IC 31-27-5-30, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006, SECTION 273, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 30. A court order granted under section 29(b)(2) of this chapter expires upon the later of the following:

(1) Sixty (60) days after the order is issued.

(2) When a final departmental decision is issued under sections 20 through ~~22~~ **21** of this chapter if notice of an enforcement action is issued under section 19 of this chapter.

SECTION 127. IC 31-27-5-32, AS ADDED BY P.L.146-2006, SECTION 38, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 32. (a) A licensee shall operate a group home in compliance with the rules established under this article and is subject to the disciplinary sanctions under subsection (b) if the department finds that the licensee has violated this article or a rule adopted under this article.

(b) After complying with the procedural provisions in sections 19 through ~~22~~ **21** of this chapter, the department may revoke the license when the department finds that a licensee has committed a violation under subsection (a)."

Re-number all SECTIONS consecutively.

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to SB 287 as introduced.)

BRAY, Chairperson

Committee Vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0.

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