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 DIGEST

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SB 109 Reengrossed

2019 Regular Session

Barrow

Present law provides for the confidentiality of foster care client case records and waiver of that confidentiality only under certain circumstances and with certain approvals. Proposed law retains present law and provides that the Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS) or a department contractor, with written consent of the foster child, may furnish certain information for education, training, and to provide perspective or foster care experience.

Present law provides for an extended stay in foster care for children housed in a residential home. Proposed law retains present law and provides that a child can stay in foster care if he is housed at a residential home, transitional placing program, or in foster care until his 21st birthday while participating in an extended foster care program.

Proposed law establishes an extended foster care program for children who are at least 18 years old but less than 21 years old. Proposed law provides for definitions, program eligibility, a voluntary placement agreement, a written court report, court jurisdiction, internal administrative reviews, program participation termination, and extension of an adoption or guardianship subsidy.

With respect to extended foster care proceedings, proposed law provides exclusive original jurisdiction for review of the written report by a court exercising juvenile jurisdiction to make a determination of whether it is in the youth's best interest to continue in extended foster care in a voluntary placement.

Present law provides for extension of foster care for certain high school students. Proposed law repeals present law and incorporates education as a determination of eligibility for the program established by proposed law.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends the heading of Ch. 3 of Title III of the Children's Code, the heading of Ch.C. Art. 303, and R.S. 46:56(F)(7)(c) and 1403.1; Adds Ch.C. Art. 303(12) and R.S. 46:288.1-288.10; Repeals R.S. 46:286.24)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Makes technical changes.
2. Adds clarifying language, further allows judge to make determination on whether it is in a youth's best interest to continue in extended foster care up to age twenty-one.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the reengrossed bill:

1. Make technical changes.