

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 655 (HB 584)

2026 Regular Session

Boyd

Prior law provided for the Foster Youth's Bill of Rights.

New law changes prior law and provides for the Foster Children's Bill of Rights.

Prior law provided for rights for youth ages 14 through 18 in foster care in this state.

New law changes references from "youth" and "youth's" to "child" and "child's" in existing law.

New law expands the age range from 14 through 18 to children from birth through 18.

New law provides foster children the right to proper luggage when moving between foster homes to ensure their dignity and safety.

New law defines luggage and specifies the condition the luggage must be in.

New law strictly prohibits the use of garbage bags as luggage for foster children.

New law provides for the responsibilities of local social services districts to provide foster children with proper luggage.

New law provides for the responsibilities of host families to ensure that luggage remains with the children.

New law provides for local social service districts and Dept. of Children and Family Services to host biennial luggage donation drives for luggage to be distributed to foster children.

New law provides for the right to reliable and safe transportation, including age-appropriate car restraint systems in accordance with existing law.

New law provides for the right to be placed with suitable family members or other individuals defined in existing law.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 46:286.16)