

2013 SENATE HUMAN SERVICES

SB 2086

2013 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

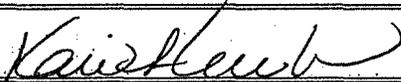
Senate Human Services Committee
Red River Room, State Capitol

SB 2086
1/15/13

Recording Job Number: 17209

Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature:



Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Relating to foster care providers.

Minutes:

You may make reference to "attached testimony."

Chairman Lee opens hearing on SB 2086.

Dean Sturn, Foster Care Administrator for the Department of Human Services, Children and Family Services Division, testifies first in support of SB 2086.

See attached testimony #1.

Floor is open for questions from the committee.

Senator Larsen asks Mr. Sturn how long someone can be in foster services after the age of 18.

Mr. Sturn explains that currently, as of last session, Law was passed that would allow foster children to willfully sign themselves into care up to the age of 21. This was done to allow federal funds to be drawn from the Social Security Act to pay for it.

Senator Larsen follows with asking if any of the state facilities can be utilized.

Mr. Sturn explains that it would be any licensed facility and that the individual would have to meet the appropriate level of care of the services provided at that facility. Mr. Sturn provides an example to further answer the question.

Chairman Lee follows by explaining that this allowance will help launch the foster children more successfully into adulthood if they are not yet prepared for the real world once the age of 18 is reached. It's an investment but it benefits both the individual and the state in the long run.

Senator Dever states that in the Century Code the word "person" is an all-encompassing term that includes corporations and asks if the word "parent" in this particular case includes "care provider" because they are serving in the capacity of the parent.

Mr. Sturn understands the point of the question and explains that they are just looking to clean up the verbiage for more clarification.

No further questions from the committee for Mr. Sturn.

No further testimony in favor or opposition.

Chairman Lee closes the hearing on SB 2086.

Committee proceeds with action.

Senator Anderson moves Do Pass.

Senator Larsen seconds.

No further committee discussion.

Roll call vote: 5-0, Do Pass.

Senator Larsen carries Bill to the floor.

Date: 1/15/13
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2013 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE
ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2086

Senate Human Services Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken: Do Pass Do Not Pass Amended Adopt Amendment

Rerefer to Appropriations Reconsider

Motion Made By Sen. Andersen Seconded By Sen. Larsen

Senators	Yes	No	Senator	Yes	No
Chairman Judy Lee	✓		Senator Tyler Axness	✓	
Vice Chairman Oley Larsen	✓				
Senator Dick Dever	✓				
Senator Howard Anderson, Jr.	✓				

Total (Yes) 5 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Sen. Larsen

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2086: Human Services Committee (Sen. J. Lee, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** (5 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2086 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

2013 HOUSE HUMAN SERVICES

SB 2086

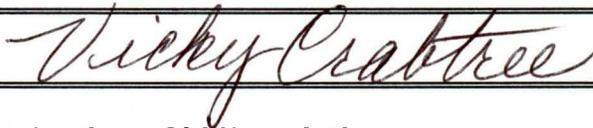
2013 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

House Human Services Committee Fort Union Room, State Capitol

SB 2086
March 6, 2013
Job #19483

Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Relating to foster care providers.

Minutes:

See Testimony #1

Chairman Weisz opened the hearing on SB 2086.

Dean Sturn: Foster Care Administrator for DHS testified in support of the bill. (See Testimony #1)

3:15

Rep. Laning: Regarding the care provider for children over 18, are there special circumstances there that they need additional care?

Sturn: It is a voluntary agreement between the parties noted. It would be for children that have been in the foster care system and when they become 18 they may need some help for a little longer with the foster parent.

Rep. Fehr: Is it a change in procedure, cost more money or cleaning up language?

Sturn: It is both. We have always allowed within the state youth to remain in foster care on a voluntary basis. In January 2012 this new law came into effect that continued to allow it, but it allowed the department to draw down IV E funds to help pay for this.

Rep. Fehr: Are 4 E funds federal funds?

Sturn: They are federal funds that are used to pay for many human services programs. A state match is attached to that.

Chairman Weisz: How many would continue to do foster care after the age of 18?

Sturn: In our first year of 2012 we have 25 youth who have chosen to remain in foster care past their 18th birthday.

Chairman Weisz: How many currently are in foster care?

Sturn: We have between 1,000-1100.

Rep. Silbernagel: Is there an upper age limit that is capped? Is it 18-21?

Sturn: That is correct. It ends on their 21st birthday.

Rep. Muscha: Does this count where the kids are still in school at age 18?

Sturn: Many times when a child is in foster care and turns 18 during their senior year in high school, many times the court order is extended for custody for that county. There would be no need for voluntary services then.

Chairman Weisz closed the hearing.

Chairman Weisz: What are the committee's wishes?

Rep. Laning: I move a Do Pass.

Rep. Fehr: Second.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 13 y 0 n 0 absent

MOTION CARRIED

Bill Carrier: Rep. Looyesen

Date: 3-6-13
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2013 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE
ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2086

House Human Services Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken: Do Pass Do Not Pass Amended Adopt Amendment
 Rerefer to Appropriations Reconsider

Motion Made By Rep. Laning Seconded By Rep. Lehr

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
CHAIRMAN WEISZ	✓		REP. MOONEY	✓	
VICE-CHAIRMAN HOFSTAD	✓		REP. MUSCHA	✓	
REP. ANDERSON	✓		REP. OVERSEN	✓	
REP. DAMSCHEN	✓				
REP. FEHR	✓				
REP. KIEFERT	✓				
REP. LANING	✓				
REP. LOOYSEN	✓				
REP. PORTER	✓				
REP. SILBERNAGEL	✓				

Total (Yes) 13 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Rep. Looyzen

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2086: Human Services Committee (Rep. Weisz, Chairman) recommends DO PASS
(13 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2086 was placed on the
Fourteenth order on the calendar.

2013 TESTIMONY

SB 2086

Testimony
Senate Bill 2086 – Department of Human Services
Senate Human Services Committee
Senator Judy Lee, Chair
January 15, 2013

Chairman Lee, members of the Senate Human Services Committee, I am Dean Sturn, Foster Care Administrator for the Department of Human Services, Children and Family Services Division. I am here today to support Senate Bill 2086 introduced at the request of the Department; and to provide you with an overview and explanation of the proposed change of verbiage to section 27-20-30.1 of the North Dakota Century Code. This section of the Uniform Juvenile Court Act relates to the disposition of children needing continued foster care services past the age of 18.

The current verbiage of this section notes that the agreement for continued foster care services for children past the age of 18 must be "willfully entered between the department of human services or its agent, the child, and the foster parent." Senate Bill 2086 would amend the phrase "foster parent" to the phrase "foster care provider." This change in verbiage would clarify that a placement in foster care does not always mean placement in family foster care with foster parents. Placement in foster care also encompasses placements in Residential Child Care Facilities (RCCF) and Group Homes. The change in this verbiage would allow for all types of foster care placements to be covered by the noted section of North Dakota Century Code 27-20-30.1.

This concludes my testimony, thank you for your consideration in support of this bill. I would be happy to answer any questions.

#1

Testimony
Senate Bill 2086 – Department of Human Services
House Human Services Committee
Representative Robin Weisz, Chair
March 6, 2013

Chairman Weisz, members of the House Human Services Committee, I am Dean Sturn, Foster Care Administrator for the Department of Human Services, Children and Family Services Division. I am here today to support Senate Bill 2086 introduced at the request of the Department; and to provide you with an overview and explanation of the proposed change of verbiage to section 27-20-30.1 of the North Dakota Century Code. This section of the Uniform Juvenile Court Act relates to the disposition of children needing continued foster care services past the age of 18.

The current verbiage of this section notes that the agreement for continued foster care services for children past the age of 18 must be "willfully entered between the department of human services or its agent, the child, and the foster parent." Senate Bill 2086 would amend the phrase "foster parent" to the phrase "foster care provider." This change in verbiage would clarify that a placement in foster care does not always mean placement in family foster care with foster parents. Placement in foster care also encompasses placements in Residential Child Care Facilities (RCCF) and Group Homes. The change in this verbiage would allow for all types of foster care placements to be covered by the noted section of North Dakota Century Code 27-20-30.1.

This concludes my testimony. Thank you for your consideration in support of this bill. I would be happy to answer any questions.