

Legislation Text

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Amending Title 21 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled "Miscellaneous," by creating a new Chapter 21-1800, entitled "Foster Care," to provide for standards and procedures for approving foster parents and the placement of children in foster care, all under certain terms and conditions.

*THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA HEREBY ORDAINS:*

SECTION 1. Title 21 of The Philadelphia Code is amended to read as follows:

TITLE 21. MISCELLANEOUS.

\* \* \*

*CHAPTER 21-1800. FOSTER CARE.*

*§21-1801. Approval of Foster Parents.*

*(1) After a prospective foster parent has been approved by a foster family care agency, pursuant to 23 Pa. C.S. §6344, the Department of Human Services, (hereinafter, "The Department,") subject to its discretion as to appropriate management of foster care placements, shall not authorize any placement with such prospective foster parent until the Department has first:*

*(a) Reviewed and considered any history of involvement with the Department by such prospective foster parent. The Department shall not place any child with a foster parent whose history of involvement with the Department, in combination with other relevant factors, demonstrates an inability to safely and appropriately care for a foster child.*

*(b) Itself or through its agent, reviewed and considered the prospective foster parent's ability and willingness to accept a foster child's relationship with his or her own parents; and to work in partnership with a foster family care agency, including the prospective foster parent's role in facilitating appropriate family and sibling visits. Once a child is placed in a foster home, the Department shall not continue to authorize such placement if the foster parent demonstrates an unwillingness or inability to facilitate appropriate family and sibling visits.*

*§21-1802. Consultation with Former and Current Foster Children.*

*Former foster children who are now adults as well as current foster children shall be consulted by the Department in conjunction with policies concerning the placement of children with foster parents. Such consultation can be through an already established advisory board or through a newly created entity, however such entity shall have no less than four former foster care children and one current foster care child.*

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**Explanation:**

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted.  
*Italics* indicate new matter added.