GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2021

H D

HOUSE BILL 769

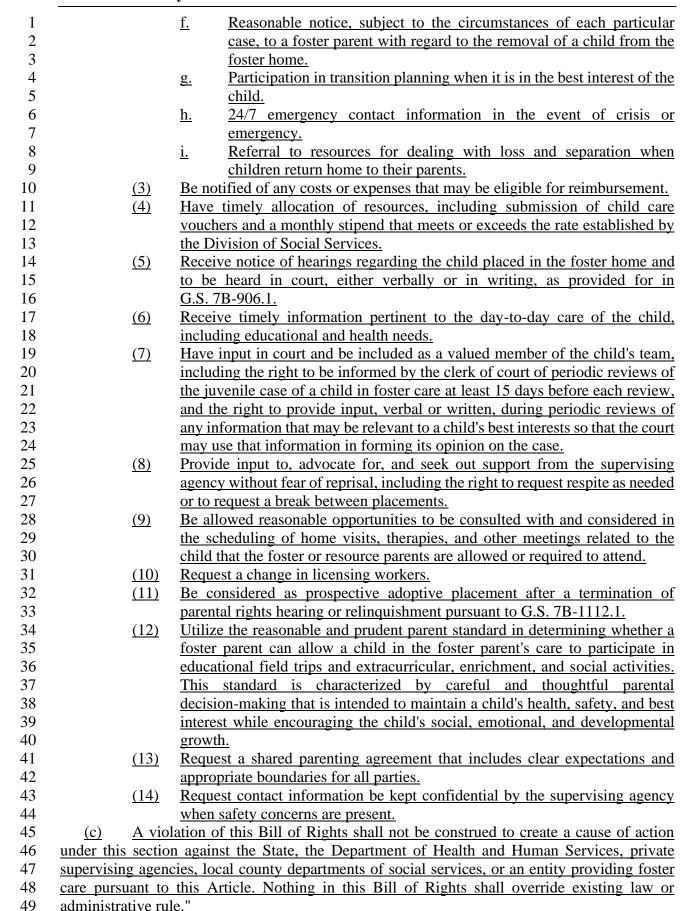
Committee Substitute Favorable 5/11/21 Senate Health Care Committee Substitute Adopted 6/16/21 PROPOSED SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE H769-PCS30466-TU-21

(Public)

Short Title: Foster Parents' Bill of Rights.

	Sponsors:			
	Referred to:			
	May 4, 2021			
1			A BILL TO BE ENTITLED	
2	AN ACT TO PR	N ACT TO PROVIDE A BILL OF RIGHTS RECOGNIZING THE RIGHTS OF FOSTER		
3	PARENTS IN	PARENTS IN THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.		
4	The General Asso	e General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:		
5	SECTION 1. Article 1A of Chapter 131D of the General Statutes is amended by			
6	adding a new section to read:			
7	" <u>§ 131D-10.9C.</u>	Foster	parents' Bill of Rights.	
8	(a) The S	tate rec	ognizes the importance of foster parents in the vital role of supporting	
9	children and families experiencing foster care. When children are removed from their parents or			
10	legal guardians, families are almost immediately integrated into a team, including child welfare			
11			s, a guardian ad litem, attorneys, and others who are working together	
12	to address the iss	ues lead	ing to the foster care.	
13	(b) In an	effort to	ensure that foster parents are treated with dignity, respect, and trust in	
14	their work for the	e Depart	ment of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services, with	
15	this team, the Sta	ate supp	orts and promotes the following for foster parents in the provision of	
16	foster care:			
17	<u>(1)</u>	To ser	ve as a respected member of the child welfare team. Foster parents will	
18		also he	onor children placed in their homes in accordance with G.S. 131D-10.1.	
19	<u>(2)</u>	To receive information about the responsibilities of foster parents and access		
20		to support services, including all of the following:		
21		<u>a.</u>	Required training and resources to ensure preparedness for caring for	
22			children experiencing loss and trauma.	
23		<u>b.</u>	Access to the Division of Social Services and licensing agency	
24			policies, including traveling with children in- and out-of-state, family	
25			visits and time, supervised and unsupervised, complaint and grievance	
26			policies, and confidentiality.	
27		<u>c.</u>	Any known information to help better care for children, including	
28			health and behavioral health history, disability, exposure to trauma,	
29			and educational needs.	
30		<u>d.</u>	Additional or necessary information that the county department of	
31			social services has that may be relevant to the care of the child when	
32			the child is placed with the foster parents.	
33		<u>e.</u>	Advance notice of scheduled meetings and appointments regarding	
34		_	case planning and care of the child.	





SECTION 2. This act is effective when it becomes law.

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