

HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL 653

Section	Bill #	Sponsor	Summary
210.566 210.790 211.171	SB 653 Relating to foster parents	Crawford	This bill modifies the "Foster Parents' Bill of Rights" to require the Children's Division and its contractors to provide written notification of these rights at the time the child is placed with a prospective foster parent, even if the parent has yet to be licensed as a foster parent. Additionally, the Division and its contractors shall provide full access to the child's medical, psychological, and psychiatric records, including records prior to the child coming into care, at the time the child is placed with a foster parent. Access shall include providing information and authorization for foster parents to review or to obtain the records directly from the service provider. If a foster parent alleges a court failed to allow the foster parent to be heard orally or in writing in a court hearing involving a child in his or her care, the foster parent may seek remedial writ relief pursuant to Missouri Supreme Court Rules 84, 94, and 97. No docket fee shall be required to be paid by the foster parent. The Division shall not remove a child from placement with the foster parent based solely upon the foster parent's filing of a petition for a remedial writ or while the writ is pending, unless removal is necessary for the health and safety of the child.
210.145 210.566 211.135	HB 1414 Relating to the protection of children	Solon	Children's Division within the Department of Social Services shall complete a standard risk assessment within 72 hours of a report of abuse or neglect as part of its structured decision-making protocols. The division and the Office of the State Court Administrator shall develop a joint safety assessment tool before December 31, 2020 to replace the current risk assessment. The safety assessment tool must be implemented before January 1, 2022. The bill also prohibits the division from requiring foster parents to conduct or be present for supervised visits with a child in their care and states that the court shall only require a child to appear in court if necessary for making a decision and after considering all of the information provided by the division and family support team and the appropriateness of the courtroom environment and the hardship to the child and current guardians.
210.652	HB 1613 210.652 is the original bill, the remaining sections are parts of the perfected bill.	Coleman (Committee amendment by Solon)	Requires the department to implement an electronic exchange of foster care and adoption data across state lines by August 28, 2020.
210.116			Allows the division to exchange electronic reports and share data with any entities as needed to protect children and access other social services.
210.112 210.123			These sections elaborate on the principles guiding the child protection system to prioritize home and community-based services and supports and successful outcomes. To that end, it requires creation of a response and evaluation team that will review and evaluate the practice of the division and any contractors. This system will be used to support contract development, placement and referrals, and enhanced payments. Other new procedures include creation of "temporary alternative placement agreements" that allow voluntary placement of a child with a relative in cases where a parent is temporarily unable to care for a child, but removal from the home, through court action is not appropriate.