SPONSOR: Koenig

This bill requires that during any child protective investigation that does not result in an out-of-home placement, a child protective investigator must provide information to the parent or guardian about community service programs that provide respite care, voluntary guardianship, or other support services for families in crisis.

The bill establishes the Supporting and Strengthening Families Act that changes the laws regarding the delegation of powers relating to the care and custody of a child. A parent or legal custodian of a child may delegate to an attorney-in-fact any powers regarding the care and custody of the child for a period not to exceed one year, except for a parent or legal custodial that is a member of the Armed Forces, as specified in the bill. The delegation shall not deprive the parent or legal custodian of any parental or legal authority regarding the care and custody of the child and can be revoked at any time. The delegate does not have the power to consent to the marriage or adoption of the child, performance or inducement of an abortion on or for the child, or the termination of parental rights to the child.

The attorney-in-fact must exercise parental or legal authority on a continuous basis without compensation and must not be subject to any statutes dealing with the licensing or regulation of foster care homes.

This bill is the similar to HB 684 (2015).