

HB 1453: Foster/Adopt Licensing

210.487 RSMo

HB 1453 impacts policy regarding the placement licensing of foster/adoptive homes.

Current Policy:

- Requires staff to obtain a child abuse/neglect, fingerprint, and Case.net and Family Care Safety Registry reports for all household members over the age of 18.
- Did not include the requirement of Highway Patrol reports, Family Care Safety Registry reports, Case.net review reports in the summary of references required for Foster/Kinship/Adoptive assessment recording outlines.

New Policy:

- Requires agency staff to initiate necessary paperwork for the background checks, including child abuse/neglect, Family Care Safety Registry, Fingerprinting, and Case.net in the initial at home consultation meeting.
- Requires staff to include documentation of the fingerprinting report, Case.net review and Family Care Safety Registry report be collected before the final at in-home consultation meeting with the family.
- Requires that a dually licensed foster home record contain a copy of the Case.net review.
- Requires agency staff to complete background checks on all adults over the age of 17 (17 years and 1 day and over) within the home; children under the age of 17 in the home who have been certified as an adult for the commission of a crime via the established fingerprinting process; complete CA/N background checks and a review of Case.net prior to licensure.
- Add policy requiring a review of Case.net when re-licensing a foster or adoptive family.
- Add instruction for conducting CA/N background checks, Family Care Safety Registry paperwork, Case.net reviews and fingerprinting when conducting an adoptive family assessment.
- Add fingerprint reports, Family Care Safety Registry reports, and Case.net review reports to the summary of references required for Foster/Kinship/Adoptive assessment recording outlines.

Expected Outcomes:

This addition to policy will comply with the statutory requirements of HB 1453 and will assist in assuring the children in the agency's care are in a stable, safe

foster or adoptive home. Best practice by the agency staff will empower the agency's ability to protect the children for whom we are responsible and will add to the prevention of further abuse/neglect of children.