

HB 1453: Putative Fathers

Current Policy: Says the birth parent understands the importance of identifying putative fathers.

New Policy

Children's Service workers will instruct all alleged minor parents (LS1) in the care and custody of the Department about their responsibilities. The fathers will be encouraged to sign up on the *Putative Father Registry*, currently under development through the *Department of Health and Senior Services/ Bureau of Vital Records*.

"Does Your Child have a Legal Father?" (CSE-6), a pamphlet describing the Putative Father Registry shall be made available in the local county offices and may be ordered from the warehouse. The CSE-6 is currently under revision and the new revision will soon be available through the warehouse.

Youth (LS1) who are alleged fathers may contact *Bureau of Vital Records* to sign up for the Registry. *Bureau of Vital Records* is in the process of developing a Putative Father Registry pamphlet with an application to register attached.

Expected Outcomes

This policy will assist agency staff and parents in understanding that fathers play an important role in a child's life and they have the responsibility and privilege to do so.