



102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2021 and 2022

SB0115

Introduced 2/3/2021, by Sen. Sara Feigenholtz

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

20 ILCS 505/5g new

Amends the Children and Family Services Act. Provides that beginning in State Fiscal Year 2022, and for every State fiscal year thereafter, the Department of Children and Family Services shall implement the rate reimbursement methodology outlined in a specified provision of the Illinois Administrative Code when calculating and determining the payment rates for private agencies that contract with the Department to provide any specified services, including, but not limited to: (i) residential services; (ii) specialized, adolescent, treatment, or other non-traditional or Home-of-Relative foster care services; and (iii) intact family services. Provides that the payment rates calculated and determined, as provided in the amendatory Act, shall include an amount equal to any increase in the general inflation as determined by the consumer price index and shall be subject to appropriation. Effective immediately.

LRB102 10229 KTG 15553 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning children.

2 WHEREAS, The Department of Children and Family Services'
3 stated mission is to protect children who are reported to be
4 abused or neglected and to increase their families' capacity
5 to safely care for them; provide for the well-being of
6 children in their care; provide appropriate, permanent
7 families as quickly as possible for those children who cannot
8 safely return home; support early intervention and child abuse
9 prevention activities and work in partnerships with
10 communities to fulfill this mission; and

11 WHEREAS, Community-based agencies provide care and
12 services for more than 80% of children involved with the child
13 welfare system on behalf of the State of Illinois, which has a
14 moral, legal, and financial responsibility to provide them
15 with the best possible care; and

16 WHEREAS, The Department of Children and Family Services
17 contracts with community-based agencies to provide services
18 for, but not limited to, children and youth in foster care,
19 intact families, and congregate care settings, at an
20 established fixed rate which should include all costs
21 associated with the delivery of those services; and

22 WHEREAS, The community-based agencies that provide these
23 vital services continually face rising operational and

1 personnel costs such as competitive employee wages, increasing
2 insurance premiums, employee benefits, occupancy, utilities,
3 training costs, and travel costs, yet the rates provided to
4 the community-based agencies are not adjusted for these
5 costs-of-doing-business expenses; and

6 WHEREAS, It is the obligation of the General Assembly to
7 promote the health, safety, and well-being of children, youth,
8 and families in the care of the Department of Children and
9 Family Services; and

10 WHEREAS, Investing in community-based agencies will help
11 the General Assembly meet its obligation and improve outcomes
12 for all families to reach their full potential and to ensure a
13 stronger and more equitable future for the children, youth,
14 and families in the care of the Department of Children and
15 Family Services; and

16 WHEREAS, It is imperative that the General Assembly
17 establish a standardized annual process that includes
18 adjustments for the cost of doing business, as measured by the
19 Consumer Price Index, and for evaluating and setting the rates
20 for child welfare services to ensure sufficient resources to
21 obtain the appropriate outcomes for children, youth, and
22 families involved in the Illinois child welfare system;
23 therefore

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
2 **represented in the General Assembly:**

3 Section 5. The Children and Family Services Act is amended
4 by adding Section 5g as follows:

5 (20 ILCS 505/5g new)

6 Sec. 5g. Payment rate increases for reimbursable services.

7 (a) As used in this Section, "consumer price index" means
8 the index published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the
9 United States Department of Labor that measures the consumer
10 price index of all items less medical care in Midwest urban
11 areas, for all urban consumers, not seasonally adjusted.

12 (b) Beginning in State Fiscal Year 2022, and for every
13 State fiscal year thereafter, the Department shall implement
14 the rate reimbursement methodology outlined in 89 Ill. Adm.
15 Code 356.50(f) when calculating and determining the payment
16 rates for private agencies that contract with the Department
17 to provide any of the services enumerated in 89 Ill. Adm. Code
18 356.50(f) and in paragraph (1) of this subsection. Payment
19 rates calculated and determined as provided in this Section
20 shall include an amount equal to any increase in the general
21 inflation as determined by the consumer price index. The
22 contractual and grant services under this Section to which the

1 rate methodology shall apply include the following:

2 (1) Residential services, including child care
3 institution, group home care, independent living services,
4 and transitional living services.

5 (2) Specialized, adolescent, treatment, or other
6 non-traditional or Home-of-Relative foster care.

7 (3) Traditional or Home-of-Relative foster care.

8 (4) Intact Family Services.

9 (5) Teen Parenting Services.

10 (c) The payment rates calculated and determined as
11 provided in this Section shall be subject to appropriation.

12 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
13 becoming law.