

SB 741 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Scharf

House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

Action Date: 05/15/25

Action: Do Pass the A-Eng bill.

Vote: 7-0-2-0

Yeas: 7 - Elmer, Hartman, McIntire, Nosse, Ruiz, Scharf, Walters

Exc: 2 - Javadi, Nguyen H

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Taylor Bickel, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 5/1, 5/15

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) to report each even-numbered year to interim legislative committees about compensation provided to foster homes and proctor foster homes beginning on July 1, 2026.

Detailed Summary:

- Requires DHS to submit a report each even-numbered year to interim legislative committees about compensation to foster homes and proctor foster homes by July 1, beginning on July 1, 2026.
- Specifies the content of the report, including information about the number of homes, caseload, capacity, payment methodology, rate increases, comparison to other states, and estimates of the sufficiency of payments relative to the cost of raising a child.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Introduced version of the measure
- Comparison with the Rate and Wage Study as required by Senate Bill 5506 (2023)
- Frequency of the report
- Costs for resource families

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Individuals who maintain foster care homes for children in care are eligible to receive [reimbursement payments](#) from the Department of Human Services that are intended to provide the child in care with food, clothing, housing, transportation, and other necessities. These foster care maintenance payments are authorized under [Title IV-E of the federal Social Security Act](#), which provides funds to states to pay for the cost of providing foster care, adoption, guardianship, and prevention services. The current monthly base rate is between \$958 and \$1,022, depending on the age of the child in care, plus enhancements based on the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths and for personal care services ([OAR 413-090-0000 et seq](#)). Additional payments are also made for child care costs and mileage reimbursements.

According to the United States Department of Agriculture's most recent report from 2017 on [Expenditures on Children by Families](#), a two-parent, middle-income family with two children would spend \$233,610 (in 2015 dollars) on child-rearing expenses through the course of a child's life from birth through age 17. Annual costs varied depending on a child's age and a family's income level, ranging between \$12,350 and \$23,380 (in 2015 dollars).