



SENATE BILL 366: Amend Certain Reqs/Permanency In Comm

**This Bill Analysis
reflects the contents
of the bill as it was
presented in
committee.**

2015-2016 General Assembly

Committee: House Health
Introduced by: Sen. Barringer
Analysis of: First Edition

Date: June 3, 2015
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Committee Staff

SUMMARY: *Senate Bill 366 would amend the reporting and meeting requirements of the Permanency Innovation Initiative Oversight Committee.*

CURRENT LAW and BILL ANALYSIS:

Under current law, the Permanency Innovation Initiative Oversight Committee (Committee) is directed to meet at least once a quarter and to report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by September 15 each year.

Senate Bill 366 would reduce number of meetings the Committee must hold from quarterly to at least twice a year. The bill would also change the Committee's reporting requirements to specifically name the chairs of the Senate and House Appropriations Subcommittees on Health and Human Services and the Fiscal Research Division and move the reporting date to February 15 each year.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act is effective when it becomes law.

BACKGROUND: The Permanency Innovation Initiative Oversight Committee (Committee) was established in the 2013 Appropriation Act (Section 12C.10 of S.L. 2013-360; Part 2 of Article 1A of Chapter 131D of the General Statutes). The 11-member Committee is tasked with:

- Designing and implementing a data tracking methodology to collect and analyze information to gauge the success of the initiative.
- Developing a methodology to identify short- and long-term cost savings in the provision of foster care and any potential reinvestment strategies.
- Overseeing program implementation to ensure fidelity to the *Family Finding and Child Specific Adoption Recruitment Services* program models.
- Studying, reviewing, and recommending other policies and services that may positively impact permanency and well-being outcomes.

The Committee oversees the services the Children's Home Society of North Carolina which is directed to develop a demonstration project to: (i) improve permanency outcomes for children living in foster care through reunification with parents, providing placement or guardianship with other relatives, or adoption; (ii) improve engagement with biological relatives of children in or at risk of entering foster care; and (iii) reduce costs associated with maintaining children in foster care.

Section 12C.6 of the 5th Edition of the 2015 House Budget would do the following

- Increase the membership of Committee from 11 to 12; the new member must be a representative from Youth Villages and appointed by the Governor.
- Amend the powers and duties of the Committee to include gauging the success of the proposed *Transitional Living Services* program and review of the program's implementation.

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