



SENATE BILL 366: Amend Certain Requirements/Permanency Innovation Committee

2015-2016 General Assembly

Committee:
Introduced by:
Analysis of: S.L. 2015-95

Date:
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SUMMARY: *S.L. 2015-95 amends the reporting and meeting requirements of the Permanency Innovation Initiative Oversight Committee. The act reduces the frequency of meetings the Committee must hold from quarterly to at least twice a year, directs the Committee to report to the chairs of the Senate and House Appropriations Subcommittees on Health and Human Services and the Fiscal Research Division, and moves the reporting date from September 15 to February 15 each year.*

This act became effective June 19, 2015.

PRIOR LAW and 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.

S.L. 2015-95 reduces the number of meetings the Committee must hold from quarterly to at least twice a year. The act also changes 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 moves the reporting date to February 15 of each year.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act became effective June 19, 2015.

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.

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