

SENATE HEALTH AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE BILL 305

57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2025

This document may incorporate amendments proposed by a committee, but not yet adopted, as well as amendments that have been adopted during the current legislative session. The document is a tool to show amendments in context and cannot be used for the purpose of adding amendments to legislation.

AN ACT

RELATING TO FAMILIES; CREATING THE QUALITY FOSTER PARENT  
RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION TASK FORCE; REQUIRING A FINAL REPORT.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. TEMPORARY PROVISION--QUALITY FOSTER PARENT  
RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION TASK FORCE--CREATED--DUTIES--FINAL  
REPORT.--

A. The "quality foster parent recruitment and

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retention task force" is created. The task force shall be convened and administered by the children, youth and families department. The task force consists of the following

SFC→~~sixteen~~←SFC Sfl1→~~SFC~~→~~seventeen~~←~~SFC~~←Sfl1

Sfl1→~~sixteen~~←Sfl1 members:

- (1) one member appointed by the governor;
- (2) one member appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;
- (3) one member appointed by the minority floor leader of the house of representatives;
- (4) one member appointed by the senate president pro tempore;
- (5) one member appointed by the minority floor leader of the senate;
- (6) one member appointed by the chief justice of the supreme court;
- (7) one member representing the Kevin S. settlement agreement;
- (8) one member representing service providers, appointed by the secretary of children, youth and families;
- (9) one member representing foster families, appointed by the secretary of children, youth and families;
- (10) one young person with lived experience who has aged out of the foster care system, appointed by the secretary of children, youth and families;

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(11) one member representing juvenile justice stakeholders, appointed by the secretary of children, youth and families;

SFC→(12) one licensed social worker with federal Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 and Indian Family Protection Act experience from an Indian nation, tribe or pueblo, appointed by the Indian affairs department;←SFC

SFC→(12)←SFC SFC→(13)←SFC one member who is a tribal member with lived experience of the effects of the federal Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978, the Indian Family Protection Act or other similar provisions of the Children's Code, appointed by the Indian affairs department;

Sf11→SFC→(13)←SFC SFC→(14)←SFC ~~one at-large representative, appointed by the secretary of children, youth and families;~~←Sf11

Sf11→SFC→(14)←SFC SFC→(15)←SFC←Sf11  
 Sf11→(14)←Sf11 one member who is a relative, a kinship caregiver or a licensed foster parent, appointed by the aging and long-term services department;

Sf11→SFC→(15)←SFC SFC→(16)←SFC←Sf11  
 Sf11→(15)←Sf11 one member of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or expansive community, appointed by the children, youth and families department; and

Sf11→SFC→(16)←SFC SFC→(17)←SFC←Sf11  
 Sf11→(16)←Sf11 one member from a rural county, appointed by

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the children, youth and families department.

B. The task force shall be appointed by August 1, 2025 and complete its work by July 1, 2026.

C. The task force shall collaborate with an institution of higher education to perform research that supports the task force.

D. The task force shall conduct a bold experiment relating to the quality of foster parent recruitment and retention to fix the broken system and get the children out of offices.

E. The task force shall study proven examples of successful models that work in other large rural states, including Utah Senate Bill 163 from 1998.

F. The public members of the task force shall receive per diem and mileage pursuant to the Per Diem and Mileage Act.

G. The task force shall submit its final report to the interim legislative health and human services committee, the interim legislative finance committee and the governor by July 1, 2026.

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