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SENATE BILL 49

52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2016

INTRODUCED BY

Steven P. Neville

AN ACT

RELATING TO CHILDREN; AMENDING SECTIONS OF THE CHILDREN'S CODE,
THE ABUSE AND NEGLECT ACT AND THE CITIZEN SUBSTITUTE CARE
REVIEW ACT; CREATING THE SUBSTITUTE CARE ADVISORY COUNCIL;
TRANSFERRING FUNCTIONS, PERSONNEL, APPROPRIATIONS, PROPERTY,
CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS AND REFERENCES IN LAW; AMENDING AND
REPEALING SECTIONS OF THE NMSA 1978.

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

SECTION 1. Section 32A-1-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1993,
Chapter 77, Section 13, as amended) is amended to read:

"32A-1-4. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Children's Code:

A. "adult" means a person who is eighteen years of
age or older;

B. "child" means a person who is less than eighteen
years old;

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1 C. "council" means the substitute care advisory
2 council established pursuant to Section 32A-8-4 NMSA 1978;

3 ~~[G.]~~ D. "court", when used without further
4 qualification, means the children's court division of the
5 district court and includes the judge, special master or
6 commissioner appointed pursuant to the provisions of the
7 Children's Code or supreme court rule;

8 ~~[D.]~~ E. "court-appointed special advocate" ~~[or~~
9 "CASA"] means a person appointed ~~[as a CASA]~~ pursuant to the
10 provisions of the Children's Court Rules ~~[who assists]~~ to
11 assist the court in determining the best interests of the child
12 by investigating the case and submitting a report to the court;

13 ~~[E.]~~ F. "custodian" means an adult with whom the
14 child lives who is not a parent or guardian of the child;

15 ~~[F.]~~ G. "department" means the children, youth and
16 families department, unless otherwise specified;

17 ~~[G.]~~ H. "disproportionate minority contact" means
18 the involvement of a racial or ethnic group with the criminal
19 or juvenile justice system at a proportion either higher or
20 lower than that group's proportion in the general population;

21 ~~[H.]~~ I. "foster parent" means a person, including a
22 relative of the child, licensed or certified by the department
23 or a child placement agency to provide care for children in the
24 custody of the department or agency;

25 ~~[I.]~~ J. "guardian" means a person appointed as a

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1 guardian by a court or Indian tribal authority or a person
2 authorized to care for the child by a parental power of
3 attorney as permitted by law;

4 ~~[J.]~~ K. "guardian ad litem" means an attorney
5 appointed by the children's court to represent and protect the
6 best interests of the child in a court proceeding; provided
7 that no party or employee or representative of a party to the
8 proceeding shall be appointed to serve as a guardian ad litem;

9 ~~[K.]~~ L. "Indian child" means an unmarried person
10 who is:

11 (1) less than eighteen years old;

12 (2) a member of an Indian tribe or is eligible
13 for membership in an Indian tribe; and

14 (3) the biological child of a member of an
15 Indian tribe;

16 ~~[L.]~~ M. "Indian child's tribe" means:

17 (1) the Indian tribe in which an Indian child
18 is a member or eligible for membership; or

19 (2) in the case of an Indian child who is a
20 member or eligible for membership in more than one tribe, the
21 Indian tribe with which the Indian child has more significant
22 contacts;

23 ~~[M.]~~ N. "Indian tribe" means a federally recognized
24 Indian tribe, community or group pursuant to 25 U.S.C. Section
25 1903(1);

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1 [~~N-~~] O. "judge", when used without further
2 qualification, means the judge of the court;

3 [~~Θ-~~] P. "legal custody" means a legal status
4 created by order of the court or other court of competent
5 jurisdiction or by operation of statute that vests in a person,
6 department or agency the right to determine where and with whom
7 a child shall live; the right and duty to protect, train and
8 discipline the child and to provide the child with food,
9 shelter, personal care, education and ordinary and emergency
10 medical care; the right to consent to major medical,
11 psychiatric, psychological and surgical treatment and to the
12 administration of legally prescribed psychotropic medications
13 pursuant to the Children's Mental Health and Developmental
14 Disabilities Act; and the right to consent to the child's
15 enlistment in the armed forces of the United States;

16 [~~P-~~] Q. "parent" or "parents" includes a biological
17 or adoptive parent if the biological or adoptive parent has a
18 constitutionally protected liberty interest in the care and
19 custody of the child;

20 [~~Q-~~] R. "permanency plan" means a determination by
21 the court that the child's interest will be served best by:

22 (1) reunification;

23 (2) placement for adoption after the parents'
24 rights have been relinquished or terminated or after a motion
25 has been filed to terminate parental rights;

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1 (3) placement with a person who will be the
2 child's permanent guardian;

3 (4) placement in the legal custody of the
4 department with the child placed in the home of a fit and
5 willing relative; or

6 (5) placement in the legal custody of the
7 department under a planned permanent living arrangement;

8 [~~R~~] S. "person" means an individual or any other
9 form of entity recognized by law;

10 [~~S~~] T. "preadoptive parent" means a person with
11 whom a child has been placed for adoption;

12 [~~F~~] U. "protective supervision" means the right to
13 visit the child in the home where the child is residing,
14 inspect the home, transport the child to court-ordered
15 diagnostic examinations and evaluations and obtain information
16 and records concerning the child;

17 V. "relative" means a person related to another
18 person by blood within the fifth degree of consanguinity or
19 through marriage by the fifth degree of affinity;

20 [~~U~~] W. "reunification" means either a return of
21 the child to the parent or to the home from which the child was
22 removed or a return to the noncustodial parent;

23 [~~V~~] X. "tribal court" means:

24 (1) a court established and operated pursuant
25 to a code or custom of an Indian tribe; or

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1 (2) any administrative body of an Indian tribe
2 that is vested with judicial authority;

3 [W-] Y. "tribal court order" means a document
4 issued by a tribal court that is signed by an appropriate
5 authority, including a judge, governor or tribal council
6 member, and that orders an action that is within the tribal
7 court's jurisdiction; and

8 [X-] Z. "tribunal" means any judicial forum other
9 than the court."

10 SECTION 2. Section 32A-4-25 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1993,
11 Chapter 77, Section 119, as amended) is amended to read:

12 "32A-4-25. PERIODIC JUDICIAL REVIEW OF DISPOSITIONAL
13 JUDGMENTS.--

14 A. The initial judicial review shall be held within
15 sixty days of the disposition. At the initial judicial review,
16 the parties shall demonstrate to the court efforts made to
17 implement the treatment plan approved by the court in its
18 dispositional order. The court shall determine the extent to
19 which the treatment plan has been implemented and make
20 supplemental orders as necessary to ensure compliance with the
21 treatment plan and the safety of the child. Prior to the
22 initial judicial review, the department shall submit a copy of
23 the adjudicatory order, the dispositional order and notice of
24 the initial judicial review to the [~~local substitute care~~
25 ~~review board for that judicial district created under the~~

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1 ~~Citizen Substitute Care Review Act]~~ council. The staff of the
2 council, or an entity contracting with the council, shall
3 review the case. If it determines that the case meets the
4 criteria established in council rules, it shall designate the
5 case for review by a substitute care review board. A
6 representative of the [~~local~~] substitute care review board, if
7 designated, shall be permitted to attend and comment to the
8 court.

9 B. The court shall conduct subsequent periodic
10 judicial reviews of the dispositional [~~orders shall be held~~]
11 order within six months of the conclusion of the permanency
12 hearing or, if a motion has been filed for termination of
13 parental rights or permanent guardianship, within six months of
14 the decision on that motion and every six months thereafter.
15 Prior to [~~the~~] a subsequent periodic judicial review, the
16 department shall submit a progress report to [~~the local~~]
17 ~~substitute care review board for that judicial district created~~
18 ~~under the Citizen Substitute Care Review Act]~~ any designated
19 substitute care review board. Prior to any judicial review by
20 the court pursuant to this section, the [~~local~~] substitute care
21 review board may review the dispositional order or the
22 continuation of the order and the department's progress report
23 and report its findings and recommendations to the court.

24 [~~The~~]

25 C. Judicial review pursuant to this section may be

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1 carried out by either of the following:

2 (1) a judicial review hearing conducted by the
3 court; or

4 (2) a judicial review hearing conducted by a
5 special master appointed by the court; provided, however, that
6 the court approve any findings made by the special master.

7 ~~[G.]~~ D. The children's court attorney shall give
8 notice to all parties, including the child by and through the
9 child's guardian ad litem or attorney, the child's ~~[CASA, a~~
10 ~~contractor administering the local]~~ court-appointed special
11 advocate, a substitute care review board, ~~[and]~~ if designated
12 by the council, and the child's foster parent or substitute
13 care provider, of the time, place and purpose of any judicial
14 review hearing held pursuant to Subsection A, ~~[or]~~ B or C of
15 this section.

16 ~~[D.]~~ E. At any subsequent judicial review hearing
17 held pursuant to Subsection B of this section, the department
18 ~~[the child's guardian ad litem or attorney]~~ and all parties
19 given notice pursuant to Subsection ~~[G]~~ D of this section shall
20 have the opportunity to present evidence and to cross-examine
21 witnesses. At the hearing, the department shall show that it
22 has made reasonable effort to implement any treatment plan
23 approved by the court in its dispositional order and shall
24 present a treatment plan consistent with the purposes of the
25 Children's Code for any period of extension of the

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1 dispositional order. The respondent shall demonstrate to the
2 court that efforts to comply with the treatment plan approved
3 by the court in its dispositional order and efforts to maintain
4 contact with the child were diligent and made in good faith.
5 The court shall determine the extent of compliance with the
6 treatment plan and whether progress is being made toward
7 establishing a stable and permanent placement for the child.

8 ~~[E-]~~ F. The Rules of Evidence shall not apply to
9 hearings held pursuant to this section. The court may admit
10 testimony by any person given notice of the hearing who has
11 information about the status of the child or the status of the
12 treatment plan.

13 ~~[F-]~~ G. At the conclusion of any hearing held
14 pursuant to this section, the court shall make findings of fact
15 and conclusions of law.

16 ~~[G-]~~ H. When the child is an Indian child, the
17 court shall determine during review of a dispositional order
18 whether the placement preferences set forth in the federal
19 Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 or the placement preferences
20 of the child's Indian tribe were followed and whether the
21 child's treatment plan provides for maintaining the child's
22 cultural ties. When placement preferences have not been
23 followed, good cause for noncompliance shall be clearly stated
24 and supported.

25 ~~[H-]~~ I. Based on its findings at a judicial review

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1 hearing held pursuant to Subsection B of this section, the
2 court shall order one of the following dispositions:

3 (1) dismiss the action and return the child to
4 the child's parent without supervision if the court finds that
5 conditions in the home that led to abuse have been corrected
6 and it is now safe for the return of the abused child;

7 (2) permit the child to remain with the
8 child's parent, guardian or custodian subject to those
9 conditions and limitations the court may prescribe, including
10 protective supervision of the child by the department;

11 (3) return the child to the child's parent and
12 place the child under the protective supervision of the
13 department;

14 (4) transfer or continue legal custody of the
15 child to:

16 (a) the noncustodial parent, if that is
17 found to be in the child's best interests;

18 (b) a relative or other individual who,
19 after study by the department or other agency designated by the
20 court, is found by the court to be qualified to receive and
21 care for the child and is appointed as a permanent guardian of
22 the child; or

23 (c) the department, subject to the
24 provisions of Paragraph (6) of this subsection;

25 (5) continue the child in the legal custody of

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1 the department with or without any required parental
2 involvement in a treatment plan. Reasonable efforts shall be
3 made to preserve and reunify the family, with the paramount
4 concern being the child's health and safety unless the court
5 finds that such efforts are not required. The court may
6 determine that reasonable efforts are not required to be made
7 when the court finds that:

8 (a) the efforts would be futile; or

9 (b) the parent, guardian or custodian
10 has subjected the child to aggravated circumstances;

11 (6) make additional orders regarding the
12 treatment plan or placement of the child to protect the child's
13 best interests if the court determines the department has
14 failed in implementing any material provision of the treatment
15 plan or abused its discretion in the placement or proposed
16 placement of the child; or

17 (7) if during a judicial review the court
18 finds that the child's parent, guardian or custodian has not
19 complied with the court-ordered treatment plan, the court may
20 order:

21 (a) the child's parent, guardian or
22 custodian to show cause why the parent, guardian or custodian
23 should not be held in contempt of court; or

24 (b) a hearing on the merits of
25 terminating parental rights.

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1 ~~[F.]~~ J. Dispositional orders entered pursuant to
2 this section shall remain in force for a period of six months,
3 except for orders that provide for transfer of the child to the
4 child's noncustodial parent or to a permanent guardian.

5 ~~[J.—The]~~ K. A report ~~[of the local]~~ that a
6 substitute care review board ~~[submitted]~~ submits to the court
7 pursuant to Subsection B of this section shall become a part of
8 the child's permanent court record.

9 ~~[K.]~~ L. When the court determines, pursuant to
10 Paragraph (5) of Subsection ~~[H]~~ I of this section, that no
11 reasonable efforts at reunification are required, the court
12 shall conduct, within thirty days, a permanency hearing as
13 described in Section 32A-4-25.1 NMSA 1978. The department
14 shall make reasonable efforts ~~[shall be made]~~ to place the
15 child in a timely manner in accordance with the permanency plan
16 and to complete whatever steps are necessary to finalize the
17 permanent placement of the child."

18 **SECTION 3.** Section 32A-4-25.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1997,
19 Chapter 34, Section 8, as amended) is amended to read:

20 "32A-4-25.1. PERMANENCY HEARINGS--PERMANENCY REVIEW
21 HEARINGS.--

22 A. A permanency hearing shall be commenced within
23 six months of the initial judicial review of a child's
24 dispositional order or within twelve months of a child entering
25 foster care pursuant to Subsection D of this section, whichever

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1 occurs first. Prior to the initial permanency hearing and as
2 required by council rule, the department shall submit a copy of
3 any continuation of the dispositional order and notice of
4 hearing to any substitute care review board designated pursuant
5 to Section 32A-8-5 NMSA 1978. All parties to the hearing shall
6 attend a mandatory meeting and attempt to settle issues
7 attendant to the permanency hearing and develop a proposed
8 treatment plan that serves the child's best interest. Prior to
9 the initial permanency hearing, the department shall submit a
10 progress report [~~regarding the child~~] to [~~the local~~] any
11 designated substitute care review board [~~for that judicial~~
12 ~~district. The local~~]. Any designated substitute care review
13 board may review the child's dispositional order, any
14 continuation of that order and the department's progress report
15 and report its findings and recommendations to the court.

16 B. At the permanency hearing, all parties shall
17 have the opportunity to present evidence and to cross-examine
18 witnesses. At the conclusion of the permanency hearing, the
19 court shall order one of the following permanency plans for the
20 child:

- 21 (1) reunification;
- 22 (2) placement for adoption after the parents'
23 rights have been relinquished or terminated or after a motion
24 has been filed to terminate parental rights;
- 25 (3) placement with a person who will be the

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1 child's permanent guardian;

2 (4) placement in the legal custody of the
3 department with the child placed in the home of a fit and
4 willing relative; or

5 (5) placement in the legal custody of the
6 department under a planned permanent living arrangement,
7 provided that there is substantial evidence that none of the
8 above plans is appropriate for the child.

9 C. If the court adopts a permanency plan of
10 reunification, the court shall adopt a plan for transitioning
11 the child home and schedule a permanency review hearing within
12 three months. If the child is reunified, the subsequent
13 hearing may be vacated.

14 D. If the court adopts a permanency plan other than
15 reunification, the court shall determine whether the department
16 has made reasonable efforts to identify and locate all
17 grandparents and other relatives. The court shall also
18 determine whether the department has made reasonable efforts to
19 conduct home studies on any appropriate relative expressing an
20 interest in providing permanency for the child. The court must
21 ensure ~~[the]~~ that consideration has been given to the child's
22 familial identity and connections. If the court finds that
23 reasonable efforts have not been made to identify or locate
24 grandparents and other relatives or to conduct home studies on
25 appropriate and willing relatives, the court shall schedule a

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1 permanency review within sixty days to determine whether an
2 appropriate relative placement has been made. If a relative
3 placement is made, the subsequent hearing may be vacated.

4 E. At the permanency review hearing, all parties
5 and the child's guardian ad litem or attorney shall have the
6 opportunity to present evidence and cross-examine witnesses.

7 Based on the evidence, the court shall:

8 (1) change the plan from reunification to one
9 of the alternative plans provided in Subsection B of this
10 section;

11 (2) dismiss the case and return custody of the
12 child to the child's parent, guardian or custodian; or

13 (3) return the child to the custody of the
14 child's parent, guardian or custodian, subject to any
15 conditions or limitations as the court may prescribe, including
16 protective supervision of the child by the department and
17 continuation of the treatment plan for not more than six
18 months, after which the case shall be dismissed. The
19 department may seek removal of a child from the home by
20 obtaining an order in the pending case or by seeking emergency
21 removal under Section 32A-4-6 NMSA 1978 during the period of
22 protective supervision if the child's best interest requires
23 such action. When a child is removed in this situation, a
24 permanency hearing shall be scheduled within thirty days of the
25 child coming back into the department's legal custody.

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1 F. The court shall hold a permanency hearing and
2 adopt a permanency plan for a child within twelve months of the
3 child entering foster care. For purposes of this section, a
4 child shall be considered to have entered foster care on the
5 earlier of:

6 (1) the date of the first judicial finding
7 that the child has been abused or neglected; or

8 (2) sixty days after the date on which the
9 child was removed from the home.

10 G. The court shall hold permanency hearings every
11 twelve months when a child is in the legal custody of the
12 department.

13 H. The children's court attorney shall give notice
14 to all parties, including the child by and through the child's
15 guardian ad litem or attorney, the child's ~~[CASA, a contractor~~
16 ~~administering the local]~~ court-appointed special advocate, any
17 designated substitute care review board and the child's foster
18 parent or substitute care provider of the time, place and
19 purpose of any permanency hearing or permanency review hearing
20 held pursuant to this section.

21 I. The Rules of Evidence shall not apply to
22 permanency hearings. The court may admit testimony by any
23 person given notice of the permanency hearing who has
24 information about the status of the child or the status of the
25 treatment plan. All testimony shall be subject to

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1 cross-examination."

2 SECTION 4. Section 32A-8-1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1993,
3 Chapter 77, Section 203) is amended to read:

4 "32A-8-1. SHORT TITLE.--Chapter [~~32~~] 32A, Article 8 NMSA
5 1978 may be cited as the "Citizen Substitute Care Review Act"."

6 SECTION 5. Section 32A-8-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1993,
7 Chapter 77, Section 204) is amended to read:

8 "32A-8-2. PURPOSE OF ACT.--The purpose of the Citizen
9 Substitute Care Review Act is to provide a permanent system for
10 independent and objective monitoring of children placed in the
11 custody of the department by examining the policies, procedures
12 and practices of the department and, where appropriate,
13 specific cases to evaluate the extent to which the department
14 is effectively discharging its child protection
15 responsibilities."

16 SECTION 6. Section 32A-8-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1993,
17 Chapter 77, Section 206) is amended to read:

18 "32A-8-4. [~~STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE~~] SUBSTITUTE CARE
19 ADVISORY COUNCIL--MEMBERS--COMPENSATION--RESPONSIBILITIES.--

20 A. [~~A state advisory committee~~] The "substitute
21 care advisory council" is created and, in accordance with the
22 provisions of Section 9-1-7 NMSA 1978, is administratively
23 attached to the regulation and licensing department. The
24 general purpose of the council is to oversee substitute care
25 review boards in their monitoring of children placed in the

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1 custody of the children, youth and families department. The
2 council shall be composed of [~~three persons with expertise in~~
3 ~~the area of substitute care, appointed by the secretary of~~
4 ~~finance and administration, and also one representative of each~~
5 ~~local substitute care review board. Each local board shall~~
6 ~~select its representative to the state advisory committee in~~
7 ~~accordance with procedures established by that committee. No]~~
8 seven persons, including:

9 (1) the secretary of public education or the
10 secretary's designee;

11 (2) the secretary of human services or the
12 secretary's designee;

13 (3) the secretary of finance and
14 administration or the secretary's designee;

15 (4) the secretary of health or the secretary's
16 designee;

17 (5) one public member, appointed by the
18 governor, who:

19 (a) is at least eighteen and no more
20 than thirty years of age at the time of appointment; and

21 (b) was previously placed in substitute
22 care; and

23 (6) two public members, appointed by the
24 governor, who have expertise in the area of child welfare.

25 B. The council may hire staff and contract for

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1 services to carry out the purposes of the Citizen Substitute
2 Care Review Act. A person employed by the department or a
3 district court ~~[may]~~ shall not serve on the ~~[state advisory~~
4 ~~committee]~~ council.

5 ~~[B.]~~ C. Terms of office of ~~[local substitute care~~
6 ~~review board]~~ public members of the ~~[state advisory committee~~
7 ~~shall be coterminous with their terms as members of the local~~
8 ~~boards. Terms of office of members who are appointed by the~~
9 ~~secretary of finance and administration shall be for three~~
10 ~~years; provided, however, that appointment of the first state~~
11 ~~advisory committee members shall be to staggered terms so that~~
12 ~~one member shall serve for a term of three years, one member~~
13 ~~shall serve for a term of two years and one member shall serve~~
14 ~~for a term of one year. The term of each member shall expire~~
15 ~~on June 30 of the appropriate year]~~ council shall be three
16 years. Public members shall be eligible for reappointment. In
17 the event that a vacancy occurs among the members of the ~~[state~~
18 ~~advisory committee appointed by the secretary of finance and~~
19 ~~administration]~~ council, the ~~[secretary]~~ governor shall appoint
20 another person to serve the unexpired portion of the term.

21 ~~[G.]~~ D. The ~~[state advisory committee]~~ council
22 shall select a chairperson, a vice chairperson ~~[an executive~~
23 ~~committee]~~ and other officers as it deems necessary.

24 ~~[D.]~~ E. The ~~[state advisory committee]~~ council
25 shall meet no less than twice annually and more frequently upon

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1 the call of the chairperson [~~or as the executive committee may~~
2 ~~determine~~].

3 F. The [~~state advisory committee is authorized to~~
4 council shall adopt reasonable rules relating to the functions
5 and procedures of the [~~local~~] substitute care review boards and
6 the [~~state advisory committee~~] council in accordance with the
7 duties of the boards as provided in the Citizen Substitute Care
8 Review Act. These rules shall [~~include guidelines for the~~
9 ~~determination of the appropriate type of review~~]:

10 (1) establish training requirements for
11 substitute care review board members;

12 (2) establish criteria for council designation
13 of cases for substitute care review board review;

14 (3) establish procedures for substitute care
15 review board review of designated cases;

16 (4) establish criteria for membership and
17 tenure on and operating procedures for substitute care review
18 boards; and

19 (5) specify the information needed for [~~all~~]
20 designated cases to be monitored by [~~the local~~] substitute care
21 review boards.

22 G. When adopting rules establishing criteria for
23 designation of cases for substitute care review board review,
24 the council shall weigh the importance of the following
25 factors, including:

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- 1 (1) sibling placements;
- 2 (2) the frequency and severity of neglect or
- 3 abuse allegations;
- 4 (3) the behavioral health status of household
- 5 members;
- 6 (4) the risks of placing children in
- 7 households where there are no relatives of the children;
- 8 (5) data related to demographics; and
- 9 (6) relevant trend data.

10 H. The [~~state advisory committee~~] council shall
11 review and coordinate the activities of the [~~local~~] substitute
12 care review boards and make a report with its recommendations
13 to the department, the courts and the [~~legislature~~] appropriate
14 legislative interim committees, on or before [~~January~~] November
15 1 of each year, regarding statutes, rules, policies and
16 procedures relating to substitute care. This report shall
17 include recommendations for any changes to substitute care
18 review boards.

19 [~~E. State advisory committee~~] I. Council members
20 shall receive per diem and mileage as provided for nonsalaried
21 public officers in the Per Diem and Mileage Act; [~~and~~] provided
22 that, if a different provision of that act applies to a
23 specific member, that member shall be paid pursuant to that
24 applicable provision. Members shall receive no other
25 compensation, perquisite or allowance."

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1 SECTION 7. Section 32A-8-5 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1993,
2 Chapter 77, Section 207) is amended to read:

3 "32A-8-5. ~~[LOCAL]~~ SUBSTITUTE CARE REVIEW BOARDS--
4 APPOINTMENTS--EXCLUSION--TERMS--TRAINING--COMPENSATION--
5 MEETINGS.--

6 A. The ~~[contractor, selected by the department of~~
7 ~~finance and administration pursuant to the provisions of~~
8 ~~Section 32-8-3 NMSA 1978]~~ council shall establish ~~[and maintain~~
9 ~~local substitute care review boards to review, as provided in]~~
10 no fewer than three substitute care review boards statewide
11 and, in each judicial district established pursuant to Section
12 34-6-1 NMSA 1978, no more than the following number of
13 substitute care review boards:

14 (1) two substitute care review boards in the
15 first judicial district;

16 (2) two substitute care review boards in the
17 second judicial district;

18 (3) one substitute care review board in the
19 third judicial district;

20 (4) two substitute care review boards in the
21 fourth judicial district;

22 (5) one substitute care review board in the
23 fifth judicial district;

24 (6) two substitute care review boards in the
25 sixth judicial district;

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1 (7) two substitute care review boards in the
2 seventh judicial district;

3 (8) two substitute care review boards in the
4 eighth judicial district;

5 (9) one substitute care review board in the
6 ninth judicial district;

7 (10) one substitute care review board in the
8 tenth judicial district;

9 (11) two substitute care review boards in the
10 eleventh judicial district;

11 (12) two substitute care review boards in the
12 twelfth judicial district; and

13 (13) one substitute care review board in the
14 thirteenth judicial district.

15 B. The council, or a contractor performing services
16 for the council pursuant to Subsection B of Section 32A-8-4
17 NMSA 1978, shall provide administrative support to substitute
18 care review boards in accordance with the Citizen Substitute
19 Care Review Act ~~[the disposition of children in the custody of~~
20 ~~the department prior to judicial review. Each board shall, to~~
21 ~~the maximum extent feasible, represent the various~~
22 ~~socioeconomic, racial and ethnic groups of the community that~~
23 ~~they serve.~~

24 ~~B. Criteria for membership and tenure on local~~
25 ~~substitute care review boards shall be determined by the state~~

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1 ~~advisory committee, after consultation with the department of~~
2 ~~finance and administration and the contractor. No] and rules~~
3 ~~that the council has adopted.~~

4 C. A person employed by the department of finance
5 and administration, the children, youth and families
6 department, the human services department, the public education
7 department, the department of health, a contractor of the
8 council or a district court [~~may~~] shall not serve on a [~~local~~]
9 substitute care review board.

10 [~~G. Each local substitute care review board shall~~
11 ~~elect a chairperson, a vice chairperson and other officers as~~
12 ~~it deems necessary.~~]

13 D. [~~Local~~] The composition of each substitute care
14 review board shall be broadly representative of the community
15 in which the board serves and include members with expertise in
16 the prevention and treatment of child abuse and neglect and may
17 include adult former victims of child abuse or neglect.

18 E. Each substitute care review board shall meet at
19 least once per quarter to review cases designated in accordance
20 with council rules.

21 F. Substitute care review board members may receive
22 per diem and mileage as provided for nonsalaried public
23 officers in the Per Diem and Mileage Act; [~~and~~] provided that,
24 if a different provision of that act applies to a specific
25 member, that member shall be paid pursuant to that applicable

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1 provision. Members shall receive no other compensation,
2 perquisite or allowance.

3 G. Upon request of the council, a substitute care
4 review board shall prepare a report summarizing its activities.
5 These reports shall not contain confidential information."

6 SECTION 8. Section 32A-8-6 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1993,
7 Chapter 77, Section 208) is amended to read:

8 "32A-8-6. CITIZEN REVIEW BOARD REVIEWS OF DISPOSITIONAL
9 JUDGMENTS.--

10 A. [~~Prior to any judicial review by the court~~
11 ~~pursuant to Section 32-4-23 NMSA 1978, the local substitute~~
12 ~~care review board shall review any dispositional order or the~~
13 ~~continuation of the order and the department's progress report~~
14 ~~on the child and submit a report to the court. The] Where
15 council rules designate the review of a case, a substitute care
16 review board shall conduct the review in accordance with the
17 provisions of the Children's Code and the Abuse and Neglect Act
18 and council rules. The designated substitute care review board
19 shall submit a report to the court for each case that it
20 reviews. The substitute care review board shall give the
21 parties in [the] a children's court [proceedings shall be given
22 prior] proceeding under substitute care review board review
23 notice of [the] a substitute care review board meeting related
24 to that proceeding and [be afforded] afford the parties an
25 opportunity to participate fully in the substitute care review~~

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1 board meeting.

2 B. [The] A report [~~of the local~~] that a substitute
3 care review board submitted to the court pursuant to this
4 section shall become a part of the child's permanent court
5 record."

6 SECTION 9. Section 32A-8-7 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1993,
7 Chapter 77, Section 209) is amended to read:

8 "32A-8-7. [~~TEMPORARY PROVISIONS~~] TRANSFER PROVISIONS--
9 FUNDS--CONTRACTS--REFERENCES IN LAW.--On the effective date of
10 this 2016 act:

11 A. [~~On the effective date of the Children's Code~~]
12 all functions, records, personnel, appropriations, money,
13 furniture, property, equipment and supplies of the department
14 of finance and administration relating to the Citizen
15 Substitute Care Review Act shall be transferred to the
16 [~~department of finance and administration~~] council;

17 B. [~~On the effective date of the Children's Code~~]
18 all appropriations, contract funds and funds for contract
19 administration and staff, the cost of [~~advisory committee~~]
20 council per diem and travel, training and all other costs
21 relating to the Citizen Substitute Care Review Act shall be
22 transferred from the department of finance and administration
23 to the [~~department of finance and administration~~] council;

24 C. [~~On the effective date of the Children's Code~~]
25 all existing rules and regulations, contracts and agreements

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1 ~~[in effect with]~~ of the department ~~[for providing a]~~ of finance
2 and administration relating to the statewide system of ~~[local]~~
3 substitute care review boards shall be binding and effective on
4 the ~~[department of finance and administration]~~ council; and

5 D. all references in law to the state advisory
6 committee shall be deemed to be references to the council."

7 SECTION 10. REPEAL.--Section 32A-8-3 NMSA 1978 (being
8 Laws 1993, Chapter 77, Section 205) is repealed.

9 SECTION 11. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the
10 provisions of this act is July 1, 2016.