

<b>LFC Requester:</b>	<b>Rachel Mercer-Garcia</b>
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**AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2025 REGULAR SESSION**

**WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, UPLOAD ANALYSIS TO**

**[AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov](http://AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov) and email to [billanalysis@dfa.nm.gov](mailto:billanalysis@dfa.nm.gov)**

*(Analysis must be uploaded as a PDF)*

**SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION**

*{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}*

**Date Prepared:** 01/22/2024 *Check all that apply:*  
**Bill Number:** SB6 Original  Correction   
 Amendment  Substitute

**Sponsor:** Michael Padilla **Agency Name and Code Number:** Office of Family Representation and Advocacy; 680  
**Short Title:** Fostering Connections PGM Eligibility **Person Writing:** Farra R. Fong  
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**SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT**

**APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)**

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26		

(Parenthesis ( ) indicate expenditure decreases)

**REVENUE (dollars in thousands)**

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26	FY27		

(Parenthesis ( ) indicate revenue decreases)

**ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)**

	FY25	FY26	FY27	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>						

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to:  
Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

### **SECTION III: NARRATIVE**

#### **BILL SUMMARY**

##### Synopsis:

Under the current Fostering Connections Act, those who turn eighteen while in CYFD's custody without being adjudicated are not eligible for the extended foster care program. Additionally, those who turn eighteen while in state custody under a Voluntary Placement Agreement are not eligible.

This bill expands eligibility for extended foster care services to include these young people.

#### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

There is no appropriation contained within this bill.

This legislation may result in a slight increase in the number of Extended Foster Care Petitions filed (anticipated at less than 10 per year) and the corresponding need to appoint counsel by the Office of Family Representation and Advocacy (OFRA) to represent these eligible adults. The financial implication for OFRA is negligible and we can absorb the cost of representation within our budget.

#### **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

None identified.

#### **PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

None identified.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

Any additional administrative implications (i.e., tracking performance measures) will be absorbed by existing processes and resources.

#### **CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

None identified.

#### **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

None identified.

#### **OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

None identified.

#### **ALTERNATIVES**

None proposed.

### **WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL**

If this Bill is not enacted, certain youth would continue to be ineligible for the Fostering Connections program unless the current Executive Order remains in effect long-term. The youth excluded include: youth who turn 18 before an adjudication in an abuse or neglect case or an action for families in need of court-ordered services, and youth who emancipate from department custody while the subject of a voluntary placement agreement.

### **AMENDMENTS**