

AN ACT

relating to foster care payments for certain children.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 264.101, Family Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a-1) and amending Subsection (d) to read as follows:

(a-1) The department shall continue to pay the cost of foster care for a child for whom the department provides care, including medical care, until the later of:

(1) the date the child attains the age of 18; or

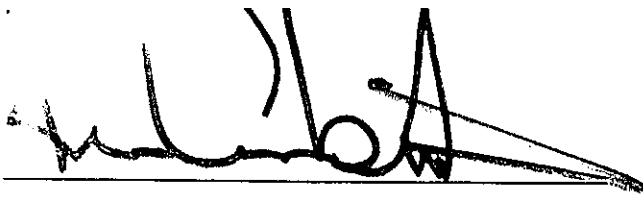
(2) the date the child graduates from high school or ceases to be enrolled in a secondary school in a program leading toward a high school diploma.

(d) The executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission [~~Board of Protective and Regulatory Services~~] may adopt rules that establish criteria and guidelines for the payment of foster care, including medical care, for a child and for providing care for a child after the child becomes 18 years of age if the child is regularly attending [~~high school,~~] an institution of higher education[~~7~~] or a vocational or technical program.

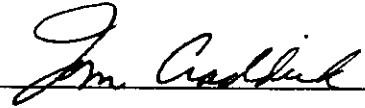
SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only to a child who is in foster care on or after the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

1 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
3 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
4 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

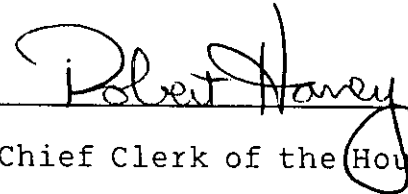


President of the Senate



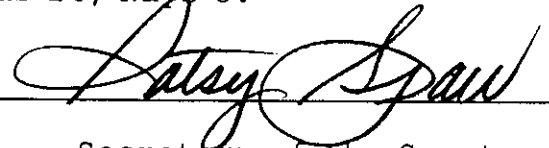
Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 614 was passed by the House on April 22, 2005, by the following vote: Yeas 140, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting.



Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 614 was passed by the Senate on May 10, 2005, by the following vote: Yeas 24, Nays 0.



Secretary of the Senate

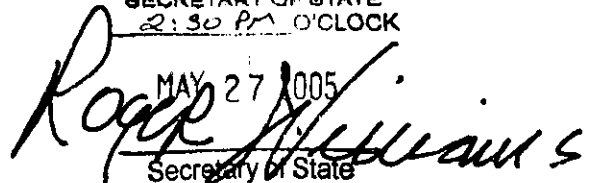
APPROVED: 27 MAY 05

Date



Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
2:30 PM O'CLOCK


MAY 27 2005
Secretary of State