

By the Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services;
the Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs; and
Senators Jones and Rouson

603-03447-25

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to licensure of family foster homes;
amending s. 409.175, F.S.; requiring the Department of
Children and Families to adopt rules to streamline the
licensure application process for licensed foster
parents who relocate within this state; requiring that
such rules include priority review of applications,
expedited home studies and background checks, and
recognition of prior foster parent training
coursework; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraph (i) of subsection (6) of section
409.175, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.175 Licensure of family foster homes, residential
child-caring agencies, and child-placing agencies; public
records exemption.—

(6)

(i)1. Upon determination that the applicant meets the state
minimum licensing requirements and has obtained a letter from a
community-based care lead agency which indicates that the family
foster home meets the criteria established by the lead agency,
the department shall issue a license without charge to a
specific person or agency at a specific location. A license may
be issued if all the screening materials have been timely
submitted; however, a license may not be issued or renewed if
any person at the home or agency has failed the required
screening. The license is nontransferable. A copy of the license

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shall be displayed in a conspicuous place. Except as provided in paragraph (k), the license is valid for 1 year from the date of issuance, unless the license is suspended or revoked by the department or is voluntarily surrendered by the licensee. The license is the property of the department.

2. The department shall adopt rules to streamline the licensure application process for a licensed foster parent who is in good standing and relocates within this state. These rules must include, but are not limited to, rules concerning priority review of applications, expedited home studies and background checks, and recognition of prior foster parent training coursework.

Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2025.