

Proposed Code Change Summary Document

General

1. Remove 'state board' for any provision that relates to the work of the local boards.
 - a. 237.15(2)(d)
 - b. 237.20(1)
 - c. 237.21(1)
2. 237.20 uses language more suited to the court (eg, testimony, hearing, evidence, etc.). Committee recommends changing this language to statement, review, etc) throughout.

237.15 Definitions

- Strike "State or" for 3rd line in 2d.

237.16 Child advocacy board

- No changes

237.17 Foster care registry

- Needs review by leadership/DHS

237.18 Duties of state board

1. 237.18(1) - add CASA
2. 237.18(2)(b) - annual report of ICAB should be about children served by FCRB and CASA (not DHS data as DHS now has data dashboards available to the public)
3. 237.18.2(b)(1) Strike "Personal"
4. 237.18(2)(b)(3) - remove the supreme court and chief judges of each judicial district and replace with judicial branch.
5. 237.18(2)(d) - update training requirements for state board; remove references to local board in this section and address local board training later.
6. 237.18(2)(e) - new combination of current code regarding state board duty in regard to establishing procedures for the local boards including grounds for dismissal.
7. Remove 237.18(3) - state board does not assign the cases to the local boards
8. 237.18 (5) - remove 2nd sentence about board cooperating with DIA.
9. Remove 237.18(4) - state board does not assist in reviewing cases
10. 237.18(6) - Remove first sentence since process is established.
11. 237.18 (7)(a) Change "ongoing" to continuing.
12. 237.18(7)(b) Add "Assess need" to the beginning of the sentence, add language about employing staff as funding is available.
13. 237.18(7)(e) Remove all of e. Was incorporated into #7b
14. 237.18(9) - remove supreme court and chief judge and replace with judicial branch

237.19 Local boards

1. 237.19(1) -
 - a. add "A minimum of five and a maximum of seven" board members.
 - b. Strike two alternates.
 - c. Strike "in consultation with the chief judge in each judicial district."
 - d. Change in the people who can serve on a board.
 - e. For state board consideration - do they think the board should approve local members?
 - f. state board does not provide names of local board members to the department. Strike or change to local office provides names....to department?
2. 237.19(2), strike second sentence
3. 237.19 (3)- new - add background checks, pre-service training requirements, state board approval before taking oath and include continuing education requirements.

237.20 Local board duties

1. 237.20(1) - Strike by the state board in first sentence.
2. 237.20(1)(a)(1) strike "case progress" and strike "and other information the board may require"
3. 237.20(1)(a)(2), strike biological parents and replace with "child's family or origin."
4. 237.20 (1)(b) - strike sentence third sentence regarding oral testimony.
5. 237.20(2) - Call the Report to the Court "Report" and adds DHS, along with the court as "customer" of report.
6. 237.20(4)(a) - add intervenor to the list of individuals who shall receive notice of the review.

237.21 Confidentiality

- 237.21(2)
 - Strike "state board"
 - Replace child care agency receiving purchase... with agency contracted to provide services through DHS
- Add new point 3 - related specifically to CASA and records
- 237.21 (current 5). Questions have been raised that a parent's attorney is not able to receive information about the family/child except that information that is provided in the CASA Report to the Court. Would like legal advice on this.
- 237.21 (current 5) add court appointed special advocate can provide information at a foster care review board meeting.

237.22 Case permanency plan

1. 237.22(4) - update language to recognize family of origin rather than biological parents and include primary caregiver in addition to foster parents.
2. 237.22(6) - add "fictive kin"