

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



REPRESENTATIVE LES GARA
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Committee Substitute for the Sponsor Substitute for House Bill 54

Sectional Analysis

CSSSHB 54: Ensuring Extended Family Members Are Contacted As Potential Foster Parents

Section 1.

This section adds a new section to AS 47.10, requiring that a supervisor in the Office of Children's Services (OCS) certify in writing that a search for noncustodial parents, adult family members, and appropriate adult family friends of the child has been conducted. OCS must notify these adults of the child's removal within 30 days, unless there are extenuating circumstances. This section codifies existing OCS policy related to extended family searches, and adds the requirement of supervisor certification.

Section 2.

This section adds a reference to the new section of statute established in Section 1. It requires that due diligence be conducted to locate extended family members before the child is placed in a foster home.

Section 3.

This section allows the department to provide for emergency placement of a child while conducting due diligence.