

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

2

HOUSE BILL NO. 242

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the training of foster parents."

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

8 * Section 1. AS 47.35 is amended by adding a new section to read:

9 Sec. 47.35.035. FOSTER PARENT TRAINING. (a) A person may not
10 be licensed under this chapter to maintain or conduct a foster home
11 unless the person has completed an orientation for foster parents
12 approved by the department. An orientation required under this sub-
13 section must provide information about foster care regulations, poli-
14 cies, and procedures, practical instruction about the realities of
15 caring for a child who is placed in a foster home, and other appro-
16 priate information.

17 (b) To maintain a license issued under this chapter for the
18 maintenance or conduct of a foster home, a licensee shall complete
19 annual foster parent training approved by the department. Each adult
20 in a foster home shall complete at least five hours of annual training
21 under this subsection, and each foster care family shall complete a
22 total of at least 15 hours of annual training. Training under this
23 subsection need not be conducted in a classroom setting, but must
24 include methods of instruction that meet the varying needs of foster
25 parents and the department.

26 (c) The requirements for training under this section may not be
27 waived.

28 * Sec. 2. AS 47.35.040(c) is amended to read:

29 (c) Except as provided in AS 47.35.035, the [THE] department may

1 waive compliance with a standard set out in regulations adopted under
2 AS 47.35.010 - 47.35.080 if an acceptable alternative is established
3 that meets the purpose of the provision and reasonably assures the
4 well-being of persons in care.