

Original sponsor: Rules/Governor

1 IN THE SENATE
2 CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 325 (HESS)
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION
5 A BILL
6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to respite care in foster homes."
7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:
8 * Section 1. AS 47.10.230(d) is amended to read:
9 (d) In addition to funds paid for the maintenance of foster
10 children under (b) of this section, the department may [SHALL] pay the
11 costs of caring for physically or mentally handicapped foster chil-
12 dren, including the additional costs of medical care, habilitative and
13 rehabilitative treatment, services and equipment, special clothing,
14 and the indirect costs of medical care, including child care, trans-
15 portation expenses, and respite care. In this subsection "respite
16 care" means child care for the purpose of providing temporary relief
17 from the stresses of caring for foster children who are mentally or
18 physically handicapped or who are determined by the department to have
19 special needs defined as a child who is developmentally disabled as
20 defined in AS 44.47.310 or mentally retarded, emotionally disturbed,
21 hearing impaired, orthopedically impaired, speech impaired, or
22 visually impaired and [NOT TO EXCEED 12 HOURS IN ANY 30-DAY PERIOD; IT
23 ALSO MEANS CHILD CARE FOR A PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED SEVEN DAYS IN A YEAR]
24 for the purpose of providing [EMERGENCY] protection for the child when
25 the foster parent is away from the home because of an emergency and no
26 other care is available for the child or when the foster parent is on
27 vacation and the child, because of age or infirmity, cannot be placed
28 in any other type of temporary care facility.