



HOUSE REPUBLICAN STAFF ANALYSIS

Bill:	House File 2163/Senate File 2096	House Committee:	PASSED 1/21/26 (14-4)
Committee:	Health & Human Services	House Floor:	
Floor Manager:	Rep. Ryan Weldon	Senate Floor:	PASSED 2/10/26 (37-9)
Date:	March 2, 2026	Governor:	
Staff:	Natalie Ginty (281-7479)		

Foster Parent Training

- This bill strikes specific hour training requirements from code for foster parent licensure and renewal. Instead, this bill allows DHHS to determine the need for training based on the experience and training of the individual foster parent and the needs of the child being placed in their care.

Section by Section Analysis

Section 1 (Iowa Code 237.5A)

Strikes specific hour requirements for foster care initial licensure (30 hours) and annual renewal (6 hours). Rather, the law will require DHHS to review the specific circumstances, experience and training of the individual licensee, as well as the child that is being placed.

This section also strikes the requirement for specific topics (physical care, education, learning disabilities, referral to and receipt of necessary professional services, behavioral assessment and modification, self-assessment, self-living skills and biological parent contact) to be a part of every renewal training. Instead, it requires the following topics:

- An overview of child welfare
- Biological parent contact and supporting a child's family of origin
- Behavior management
- Trauma and the effect on child development
- Attachment grief and loss

This section also strikes the explicit exemption for a licensee in active duty to be in compliance for licensure renewal.

Section by Section Analysis

H-8009 by Weldon – Conforms with the Senate File. Maintains military exemption.