

ARIZONA STATE SENATE Fifty-Fifth Legislature, Second Regular Session

FACT SHEET FOR S.B. 1530

kinship foster care; stipend

Purpose

Requires the Department of Child Safety (DCS) to provide a kinship foster care parent with a stipend of \$300 per month for each child placed with the foster care parent.

Background

DCS is responsible for investigating reports of abuse and neglect relating to children and coordinating services to maintain permanency on behalf of the child, strengthening the family and providing prevention, intervention and treatment services (A.R.S. § 8-451).

The placement of a child who is in DCS custody is determined by the best interests of the child, and DCS must establish kinship foster care services for a child who has been removed from the child's home. A kinship foster care parent may be eligible to receive the following financial services for the child: 1) full foster care benefits, including payment if the kinship foster care parent becomes a licensed foster care home; and 2) Temporary Assistance for Needy Families cash assistance payments (A.R.S. § 8-514.03).

S.B. 1530 increases the monthly stipend a kinship foster care parent would receive from \$75 to \$300 which may have a fiscal impact to the state General Fund.

Provisions

- 1. Requires DCS to provide a kinship foster care parent with a stipend of \$300 per month for each child placed with the foster care parent.
- 2. Repeals statute that requires the promotion of placing a child in the care of DCS with the child's relative or a person with a significant relationship to the child for kinship foster care.
- 3. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

Prepared by Senate Research February 11, 2022 LMM/sr