



Reprinted
February 5, 2021

SENATE BILL No. 239

DIGEST OF SB 239 (Updated February 4, 2021 3:41 pm - DI 119)

Citations Affected: IC 31-25.

Synopsis: Requires the department of child services (department) to establish before October 1, 2021, policies and procedures to allow for child and family services to be provided remotely. Requires a child and family services provider to collaborate with the department in determining whether remote services are appropriate in a particular case, and specifies factors that the provider and the department may consider in making the determination. Provides for the department to make the final determination regarding whether remote services are appropriate in a particular case, and allows the child and family services provider to provide services remotely at the provider's discretion until the department makes the final determination.

Effective: Upon passage.

**Brown L, Ford Jon, Zay,
Randolph Lonnie M**

January 11, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on Family and Children Services.
January 26, 2021, reported favorably — Do Pass.
January 28, 2021, read second time, ordered engrossed. Engrossed.
February 1, 2021, returned to second reading.
February 4, 2021, re-read second time, amended, ordered engrossed.

SB 239—LS 7004/DI 119



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First Regular Session of the 122nd General Assembly (2021)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2020 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

SENATE BILL No. 239

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning family law and juvenile law.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 31-25-2-7.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
2 AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 UPON PASSAGE]: **Sec. 7.5. (a) The department shall before**
4 **October 1, 2021, establish policies and procedures to allow for**
5 **child and family services to be provided remotely by October 1,**
6 **2021. These policies and procedures must allow a child and family**
7 **services provider the discretion to initiate a consultation with the**
8 **department for any child and family services the provider believes**
9 **should be provided remotely. The child and family services**
10 **provider and the child's case manager may take into consideration**
11 **the following when determining whether remote child and family**
12 **services are appropriate:**
13 (1) **The child's:**
14 (A) **CANS assessment;**
15 (B) **case plan; and**
16 (C) **safety plan.**
17 (2) **The child's and family's:**

SB 239—LS 7004/DI 119



1 (A) initial safety assessment;
2 (B) initial family risk assessment; and
3 (C) preferences regarding the manner of receiving
4 services.
5 (3) Federal reimbursement requirements.
6 (4) Evidence based practice requirements.
7 (b) A child and family services provider may, at the discretion
8 of the child and family services provider, provide child and family
9 services remotely:
10 (1) before the family team meeting while the child and family
11 services provider and the department are in consultation
12 under subsection (a); and
13 (2) until the department communicates to the child and family
14 services provider and the family a determination as to the role
15 of remote services for the child at or after the family team
16 meeting.
17 The child and family services provider shall continue to meet with
18 the child and family in person at least once a week as the
19 department deems necessary.
20 SECTION 2. An emergency is declared for this act.



COMMITTEE REPORT

Madam President: The Senate Committee on Family and Children Services, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 239, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill DO PASS.

(Reference is to SB 239 as introduced.)

GROOMS, Chairperson

Committee Vote: Yeas 7, Nays 1

 SENATE MOTION

Madam President: I move that Engrossed Senate Bill 239, which is eligible for third reading, be returned to second reading for purposes of amendment.

BROWN L

 SENATE MOTION

Madam President: I move that Senate Bill 239 be amended to read as follows:

Page 1, line 3, after "7.5." insert "(a)".

Page 1, line 4, after "child" insert "**and family**".

Page 1, line 6, delete "for child services to" and insert "**a child and family services provider the discretion to initiate a consultation with the department for any child and family services the provider believes should**".

Page 1, line 6, after "remotely" insert ".".

Page 1, delete lines 7 through 9.

Page 1, line 10, delete "manager."

Page 1, line 10, after "The child" insert "**and family**".

Page 1, line 12, after "remote child" insert "**and family**".

Page 1, line 12, delete "appropriate for a child:" and insert "**appropriate:**".

Page 1, line 15, after "plan;" insert "**and**".

Page 1, line 16, delete "plan;" and insert "**plan.**".

SB 239—LS 7004/DI 119



Page 1, delete line 17, begin a new line block indented and insert:

"(2) The child's and family's:

(A) initial safety assessment;

(B) initial family risk assessment; and

(C) preferences regarding the manner of receiving services."

Page 2, delete lines 1 through 2.

Page 2, line 3, delete "(2)" and insert "(3)".

Page 2, delete lines 4 through 5, begin a new line block indented and insert:

"(4) Evidence based practice requirements.

(b) A child and family services provider may, at the discretion of the child and family services provider, provide child and family services remotely:

(1) before the family team meeting while the child and family services provider and the department are in consultation under subsection (a); and

(2) until the department communicates to the child and family services provider and the family a determination as to the role of remote services for the child at or after the family team meeting.

The child and family services provider shall continue to meet with the child and family in person at least once a week as the department deems necessary."

(Reference is to SB 239 as printed January 27, 2021.)

BROWN L

