

Colorado State Foster Parent Association

Public Policy Report

January 22, 2006
(Adoree Blair, Public Policy Chair)

As of this date, the following bills of interest to families and children can be added to the previous report:

House Bills:

HB 1123 by Harvey – Makes it a class 2 misdemeanor to run away from home; allows an exemption if the home environment is dangerous for the child; allows parents to dismiss the charges if it is a first-time incident.

HB 1126 by Green and Tochtrop – Prohibits anyone from selling unsafe children's products after 7-1-06; mandates manufacturers to warn consumers of product safety; makes provisions about revoking or denying licenses for facilities that use unsafe children's products; allows lawsuits against manufacturers by parents if their child is injured.

HB 1128 – Makes the killing of a fetus in certain circumstances a class 1 felony.

HB 1145 by Solano and Teck – Creates a Task force to oversee efforts in Colorado to for prevention, study and oversight of methamphetamine use in the state.

HB 1150 by Hefley and Groff – Establishes standardized school dates and standards for schools in the state.

HB 1151 by Hefley and Groff – Creates the standards for emotional abuse to severe emotional abuse and defines such; makes it a felony act.

HB 1153 – by Berens and Mitchell – Closes some "loopholes" for sexual offenders to escape registering as sex offenders.

HB 1154 by Berens and Hanna – Creates a (fancy) heirloom birth and marriage certificate that can be bought in Colorado; the funds from such consumption shall be directed to a fund that pays for immunization of infants and children.

HB 1160 by Butcher and Tapia – Enables some community colleges to become second chance schools for students 16 and older who are in danger of dropping out of school.

HB 1162 by May and Williams – Elevates the driving age by a year and creates certain standards for such driving.

HB 1169 by Decker – Closes many of the documents in a divorce case to the public but allows them to remain open to certain individuals cited by statute.

HB 1171 by Riesberg – Changes the legal limitation for intoxication (lowers it); creates other laws around drunken driving.

HB 1172 by Decker and Sandoval – Creates a license for businesses to sell cigarettes, creates penalties around such selling to minors.

Senate Bills:

SB 099 by Evans – Creates incentives for vaccine companies to leave mercury out of vaccines for pregnant women – creates rules for exemption and gets the Public Health Department involved in such programs.

SB 100 by Sandoval and Pommer – Creates the “Kids First” license plates, with funds earned for such plates to be funneled into an injury and prevention program for children.

SB 102 – Creates a murder exemption for a caregiver of a terminally ill patient, but does not allow for assisted suicide.

To follow any of these bills, simply click on the General Assembly web site at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/> and click to House Bills or Senate Bills. You may speak in the committee hearings for any of these bills. Let me know if you need guidance at 303 798 3881, or email me at adoree1@msn.com - which is the easiest way to reach me.