

ORIGINAL HOUSE
BILL NO. 0235

ENROLLED ACT NO. 47, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SIXTIETH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING
2009 GENERAL SESSION

AN ACT relating to child protection; specifying new duties of a multidisciplinary team in child protection cases; requiring case planning focused on returning the child to the home or closing a child abuse or neglect case; specifying applicability of the act; and providing for an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:

Section 1. W.S. 14-3-427(e) and (f), 14-3-429(d)(iii), 14-6-227(e) and (f) and 14-6-427(e) and (f) are amended to read:

14-3-427. Predisposition studies and reports.

(e) Before the first multidisciplinary team meeting, the department of family services shall provide each member of the multidisciplinary team with a brief summary of the case detailing the allegations in the petition that have been adjudicated, if any. The multidisciplinary team shall review the child's personal and family history, school records, mental health records and department of family services records and any other pertinent information, for the purpose of making case planning recommendations. To the extent appropriate, the team shall involve the child in the development of the recommendations.

(f) At the first multidisciplinary team meeting, the team shall formulate reasonable and attainable recommendations for the court outlining the goals or objectives the parents should be required to meet for the child to be returned to the home or for the case to be closed, or until ordered by the court in termination proceedings. At each subsequent meeting, the multidisciplinary team shall review the progress of the

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parents and the child, and shall reevaluate the plan ordered by the court. For cause, which shall be set forth with specificity, the multidisciplinary team may adjust its recommendations to the court with respect to the goals or objectives in the plan to effect the return of the child to the home or to close the case. In formulating recommendations, the multidisciplinary team shall give consideration to the best interest of the child, the best interest of the family, the most appropriate and least restrictive case planning options available as well as costs of care. After each multidisciplinary team meeting, the coordinator shall prepare for submission to each member of the team and to the court a summary of the multidisciplinary team meeting specifically describing the recommendations for the court and the goals and objectives which should be met to return the child to the home or to close the case. If the recommendations for the case plan have been changed, the summary shall include a detailed explanation of the change in the recommendations and the reasons for the change.

14-3-429. Decree where child adjudged neglected; dispositions; terms and conditions; legal custody.

(d) As a part of any order of disposition and the terms and conditions thereof, the court may:

(iii) Require the child's parents or guardian to attend a parenting class or other appropriate education or treatment designed to address problems which contributed to the adjudication and to pay all or part of the cost of the class, education or treatment in accordance with the court's determination of their ability to pay.

14-6-227. Predisposition studies and reports.

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(e) Before the first multidisciplinary team meeting, the department of family services shall provide each member of the multidisciplinary team with a brief summary of the case detailing the allegations in the petition that have been adjudicated, if any. The multidisciplinary team shall, as quickly as reasonably possible, review the child's personal and family history, school, mental health and department of family services records and any other pertinent information, for the purpose of making sanction recommendations. The team shall involve the child in the development of recommendations to the extent appropriate.

(f) At the first multidisciplinary team meeting, the team shall formulate reasonable and attainable recommendations for the court outlining the goals or objectives the parents should be required to meet for the child to be returned to the home or for the case to be closed, or until ordered by the court in termination proceedings. At each subsequent meeting, the multidisciplinary team shall review the progress of the parents and the child, and shall reevaluate the plan ordered by the court. For cause, which shall be set forth with specificity, the multidisciplinary team may adjust its recommendations to the court with respect to the goals or objectives in the plan to effect the return of the child to the home or to close the case, or until ordered by the court in termination proceedings. The multidisciplinary team shall formulate written recommendations consistent with the purposes of this act. After each multidisciplinary team meeting, the coordinator shall prepare for submission to each member of the team and to the court a summary of the multidisciplinary team meeting specifically describing the recommendations for the court and the goals and objectives which should be met to return the child to the home or to close the case, or until ordered by the court in termination proceedings. If the recommendations for the

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case plan have been changed, the summary shall include a detailed explanation of the change in the recommendations and the reasons for the change.

14-6-427. Predisposition studies and reports.

(e) Before the first multidisciplinary team meeting, the department of family services shall provide each member of the multidisciplinary team with a brief summary of the case detailing the allegations in the petition that have been adjudicated, if any. The multidisciplinary team shall, as quickly as reasonably possible, review the child's personal and family history, school, mental health and department of family services records and any other pertinent information, for the purpose of making case planning recommendations. The team shall involve the child in the development of recommendations to the extent appropriate.

(f) At the first multidisciplinary team meeting, the team shall formulate reasonable and attainable recommendations for the court outlining the goals or objectives the parents should be required to meet for the child to be returned to the home or for the case to be closed. At each subsequent meeting, the multidisciplinary team shall review the progress of the parents and the child, and shall reevaluate the plan ordered by the court. For cause, which shall be set forth with specificity, the multidisciplinary team may adjust its recommendations to the court with respect to the goals or objectives in the plan to effect the return of the child to the home or to close the case, or until ordered by the court in termination proceedings. In formulating recommendations, the multidisciplinary team shall give consideration to the best interest of the child, the best interest of the family, the most appropriate and least restrictive case

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planning options available as well as costs of care. After each multidisciplinary team meeting, the coordinator shall prepare for submission to each member of the team and to the court a summary of the multidisciplinary team meeting specifically describing the recommendations for the court and the goals and objectives which should be met to return the child to the home or to close the case, or until ordered by the court in termination proceedings. If the recommendations for the case plan have been changed, the summary shall include a detailed explanation of the change in the recommendations and the reasons for the change.

Section 2. The provisions of W.S. 14-3-427(e) and (f), 14-3-429(d), 14-6-227(e) and (f) and 14-6-427(e) and (f) as amended by section 1 of this act, shall apply to child protection cases in which a petition was filed under W.S. 14-3-412, 14-6-212 or 14-6-412 on or after July 1, 2009.

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Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2009.

(END)

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Governor

TIME APPROVED: _____

DATE APPROVED: _____

I hereby certify that this act originated in the House.

Chief Clerk