

- SUBJECT:** Creating a foster parents' bill of rights
- COMMITTEE:** Human Services — committee substitute recommended
- VOTE:** 8 ayes — Rose, Darby, Elkins, Hernandez, Hughes, Legler, Naishtat, Walle
0 nays
1 absent — Herrero
- WITNESSES:** For — Wendy Knox; (*Registered, but did not testify:* Diana Martinez, TexProtects); (*On committee substitute:*) Kenneth Knox
Against — None
On — Constance Barker, DePelchin Children's Center
- BACKGROUND:** Human Resources Code, ch. 42, regulates certain homes, facilities and agencies, including foster homes, agency foster homes, and child-placing agencies.
- DIGEST:** CSHB 3137 would amend Human Resources Code, ch. 42 by adding sec. 42.0452 to require the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) to develop a statement listing the rights and responsibilities of a foster parent or an agency foster home and of the department or a child-placing agency.

DFPS would have to provide a written copy of the statement to each foster parent in a foster home and to each child-placing agency licensed by the department. A child-placing agency would provide a written copy of the statement to each foster parent in an agency foster home.

The bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2009.