

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA  
ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 298**

Introduced by Baker, 30.

Read first time January 12, 2017

Committee: Health and Human Services

1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to juveniles; to amend sections 43-2,108,  
2 43-4218, 43-4701, 43-4702, 43-4703, 43-4704, 43-4706, 43-4707,  
3 43-4709, 43-4710, 43-4711, 43-4712, 43-4713, and 43-4714, Reissue  
4 Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to an  
5 independent living transition proposal; to rename and change  
6 provisions relating to the Normalcy Task Force; to change provisions  
7 relating to the Nebraska Strengthening Families Act; to define and  
8 redefine terms; to change and provide duties for the Department of  
9 Health and Human Services, the Office of Probation Administration,  
10 foster family homes, child-care institutions, and juvenile  
11 facilities with respect to children in foster care as prescribed; to  
12 provide for training; to harmonize provisions; to repeal the  
13 original sections; and to declare an emergency.  
14 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 43-2,108, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska,  
2 is amended to read:

3 43-2,108 (1) The juvenile court judge shall keep a minute book in  
4 which he or she shall enter minutes of all proceedings of the court in  
5 each case, including appearances, findings, orders, decrees, and  
6 judgments, and any evidence which he or she feels it is necessary and  
7 proper to record. Juvenile court legal records shall be deposited in  
8 files and shall include the petition, summons, notice, certificates or  
9 receipts of mailing, minutes of the court, findings, orders, decrees,  
10 judgments, and motions.

11 (2) Except as provided in subsections (3) and (4) of this section,  
12 the medical, psychological, psychiatric, and social welfare reports and  
13 the records of juvenile probation officers as they relate to individual  
14 proceedings in the juvenile court shall not be open to inspection,  
15 without order of the court. Such records shall be made available to a  
16 district court of this state or the District Court of the United States  
17 on the order of a judge thereof for the confidential use of such judge or  
18 his or her probation officer as to matters pending before such court but  
19 shall not be made available to parties or their counsel; and such  
20 district court records shall be made available to a county court or  
21 separate juvenile court upon request of the county judge or separate  
22 juvenile judge for the confidential use of such judge and his or her  
23 probation officer as to matters pending before such court, but shall not  
24 be made available by such judge to the parties or their counsel.

25 (3) As used in this section, confidential record information means  
26 all docket records, other than the pleadings, orders, decrees, and  
27 judgments; case files and records; reports and records of probation  
28 officers; and information supplied to the court of jurisdiction in such  
29 cases by any individual or any public or private institution, agency,  
30 facility, or clinic, which is compiled by, produced by, and in the  
31 possession of any court. In all cases under subdivision (3)(a) of section

1 43-247, access to all confidential record information in such cases shall  
2 be granted only as follows: (a) The court of jurisdiction may, subject to  
3 applicable federal and state regulations, disseminate such confidential  
4 record information to any individual, or public or private agency,  
5 institution, facility, or clinic which is providing services directly to  
6 the juvenile and such juvenile's parents or guardian and his or her  
7 immediate family who are the subject of such record information; (b) the  
8 court of jurisdiction may disseminate such confidential record  
9 information, with the consent of persons who are subjects of such  
10 information, or by order of such court after showing of good cause, to  
11 any law enforcement agency upon such agency's specific request for such  
12 agency's exclusive use in the investigation of any protective service  
13 case or investigation of allegations under subdivision (3)(a) of section  
14 43-247, regarding the juvenile or such juvenile's immediate family, who  
15 are the subject of such investigation; and (c) the court of jurisdiction  
16 may disseminate such confidential record information to any court, which  
17 has jurisdiction of the juvenile who is the subject of such information  
18 upon such court's request.

19 (4) The court shall provide copies of predispositional reports and  
20 evaluations of the juvenile to the juvenile's attorney and the county  
21 attorney or city attorney prior to any hearing in which the report or  
22 evaluation will be relied upon.

23 (5) In all cases under sections 43-246.01 and 43-247, the office of  
24 Inspector General of Nebraska Child Welfare may submit a written request  
25 to the probation administrator for access to the records of juvenile  
26 probation officers in a specific case. Upon a juvenile court order, the  
27 records shall be provided to the Inspector General within five days for  
28 the exclusive use in an investigation pursuant to the Office of Inspector  
29 General of Nebraska Child Welfare Act. Nothing in this subsection shall  
30 prevent the notification of death or serious injury of a juvenile to the  
31 Inspector General of Nebraska Child Welfare pursuant to section 43-4318

1 as soon as reasonably possible after the Office of Probation  
2 Administration learns of such death or serious injury.

3 (6) In all cases under sections 43-246.01 and 43-247, the juvenile  
4 court shall disseminate confidential record information to the Foster  
5 Care Review Office pursuant to the Foster Care Review Act.

6 (7) Nothing in subsections (3), (5), and (6) of this section shall  
7 be construed to restrict the dissemination of confidential record  
8 information between any individual or public or private agency,  
9 institute, facility, or clinic, except any such confidential record  
10 information disseminated by the court of jurisdiction pursuant to this  
11 section shall be for the exclusive and private use of those to whom it  
12 was released and shall not be disseminated further without order of such  
13 court.

14 (8)(a) Any records concerning a juvenile court petition filed  
15 pursuant to subdivision (3)(c) of section 43-247 shall remain  
16 confidential except as may be provided otherwise by law. Such records  
17 shall be accessible to (i) the juvenile except as provided in subdivision  
18 (b) of this subsection, (ii) the juvenile's counsel, (iii) the juvenile's  
19 parent or guardian, and (iv) persons authorized by an order of a judge or  
20 court.

21 (b) Upon application by the county attorney or by the director of  
22 the facility where the juvenile is placed and upon a showing of good  
23 cause therefor, a judge of the juvenile court having jurisdiction over  
24 the juvenile or of the county where the facility is located may order  
25 that the records shall not be made available to the juvenile if, in the  
26 judgment of the court, the availability of such records to the juvenile  
27 will adversely affect the juvenile's mental state and the treatment  
28 thereof.

29 (9) Nothing in subsection (3), (5), or (6) of this section shall be  
30 construed to restrict the immediate and public dissemination of a current  
31 picture and information about a child who is missing from a foster or

1 out-of-home placement, including posting the child's picture and  
2 information on social media. Such information shall be subject to state  
3 and federal confidentiality laws and shall not include that the child is  
4 in the care, custody, or control of the Department of Health and Human  
5 Services or the Office of Probation Administration.

6 Sec. 2. Section 43-4218, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
7 amended to read:

8 43-4218 (1)(a) ~~(1)~~ The Normalcy Task Force is created. On July 1,  
9 2017, the Normalcy Task Force shall become the Nebraska Strengthening  
10 Families Act Committee.

11 (b)(i) Beginning July 1, 2016, until July 1, 2017, the Normalcy Task  
12 Force shall monitor and make recommendations regarding the implementation  
13 in Nebraska of the federal Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening  
14 Families Act, Public Law 113-183, as such act existed on January 1, 2016.

15 (ii) On and after July 1, 2017, the Nebraska Strengthening Families  
16 Act Committee shall monitor and make recommendations regarding the  
17 implementation in Nebraska of the federal Preventing Sex Trafficking and  
18 Strengthening Families Act, Public Law 113-183, as such act existed on  
19 July 1, 2017, and the Nebraska Strengthening Families Act.

20 (2) Until July 1, 2017, the ~~The~~ members of the task force, and on  
21 and after July 1, 2017, the members of the committee shall include, but  
22 not be limited to, (a) representatives from the legislative, executive,  
23 and judicial branches of government. The representatives from the  
24 legislative and judicial branches shall be nonvoting, ex officio members,  
25 (b) no fewer than three young adults currently or previously in foster  
26 care which may be filled on a rotating basis by members of Project  
27 Everlast or a similar youth support or advocacy group, (c) a  
28 representative from the juvenile probation system, (d) the executive  
29 director of the Foster Care Review Office, (e) one or more  
30 representatives from a child welfare advocacy organization, (f) one or  
31 more representatives from a child welfare service agency, (g) one or more

1 representatives from an agency providing independent living services, (h)  
2 one or more representatives of a child-care institution or a juvenile  
3 facility as such terms are as defined in section 43-4703, (i) one or more  
4 current or former foster parents, (j) one or more parents who have  
5 experience in the foster care system, (k) one or more professionals who  
6 have relevant practical experience such as a caseworker, and (l) one or  
7 more guardians ad litem who practice in juvenile court.

8 (3) On or before July 1, 2016, the Nebraska Children's Commission  
9 shall appoint the members of the task force. On July 1, 2017, the members  
10 of the task force shall become members of the committee, shall serve the  
11 amount of time remaining on their initial terms of office, and are  
12 eligible for reappointment by the Nebraska Children's Commission. Members  
13 ~~of the task force~~ shall be appointed for terms of two years. The  
14 commission shall appoint a chairperson or chairpersons of the committee  
15 ~~task force~~ and may fill vacancies on the committee ~~task force~~ as such  
16 vacancies occur.

17 (4) The committee ~~task force~~ shall provide a written report with  
18 recommendations regarding the initial and ongoing implementation of the  
19 federal Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act, as  
20 such act existed on January 1, 2017, and the Nebraska Strengthening  
21 Families Act 2016, and related efforts to improve normalcy for children  
22 in foster care and related populations to the Nebraska Children's  
23 Commission, the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature,  
24 the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Governor by December  
25 15 of each year. The report to the Health and Human Services Committee of  
26 the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

27 Sec. 3. Section 43-4701, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
28 amended to read:

29 43-4701 Sections 43-4701 to 43-4714 and section 14 of this act shall  
30 be known and may be cited as the Nebraska Strengthening Families Act.

31 Sec. 4. Section 43-4702, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is

1 amended to read:

2 43-4702 The Legislature finds that every day a parent makes  
3 important decisions about his or her child's participation in activities  
4 and that a caregiver for a child in out-of-home care is faced with making  
5 the same decisions for a child in his or her care.

6 The Legislature also finds that, when a caregiver makes decisions,  
7 he or she must consider applicable laws, rules, and regulations to  
8 safeguard the health and safety of a child in out-of-home care and that  
9 those laws, rules, and regulations have commonly been interpreted to  
10 prohibit children in out-of-home care from participating in  
11 extracurricular, enrichment, cultural, and social activities.

12 The Legislature further finds that participation in these types of  
13 activities is important to a child's well-being, not only emotionally,  
14 but in developing valuable life skills.

15 It is the intent of the Legislature to recognize the importance of  
16 parental rights and the different rights that exist dependent on a  
17 variety of factors, including the age and maturity of the child, the  
18 status of the case, and the child's placement with and role of the  
19 Department of Health and Human Services or the Office of Probation  
20 Administration.

21 It is the intent of the Legislature to recognize the importance of  
22 race, culture, and identity for children in out-of-home care.

23 It is the intent of the Legislature to recognize the importance of  
24 making every effort to normalize the lives of children in out-of-home  
25 care and to empower a caregiver to approve or disapprove a child's  
26 participation in activities based on the caregiver's own assessment using  
27 a reasonable and prudent parent standard.

28 It is the intent of the Legislature to implement the federal  
29 Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act, Public Law  
30 113-183, as such act existed on January 1, 2016.

31 Sec. 5. Section 43-4703, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is

1 amended to read:

2 43-4703 For purposes of the Nebraska Strengthening Families Act:

3 (1) Age or developmentally appropriate means activities or items  
4 that are generally accepted as suitable for a child of the same  
5 chronological age or level of maturity or that are determined to be  
6 developmentally appropriate for a child, based on the development of  
7 cognitive, emotional, physical, and behavioral capacities that are  
8 typical for an age or age group and, in the case of a specific child,  
9 activities or items that are suitable for the child based on the  
10 developmental stages attained by the child with respect to the cognitive,  
11 emotional, physical, and behavioral capacities of the child;

12 (2) Caregiver means a foster parent with whom a child in foster care  
13 has been placed or a designated official for a child-care institution or  
14 juvenile facility in which a child in foster care has been placed;

15 (3) Child-care institution has the definition found in 42 U.S.C.  
16 672(c), as such section existed on January 1, 2016, ~~and also includes the~~  
17 ~~definition of residential child-caring agency as found in section~~  
18 ~~71-1926;~~

19 (4) Department means the Department of Health and Human Services;

20 (5) Foster care means any court-ordered placement outside the  
21 child's family home for children for whom the Office of Probation  
22 Administration has placement and care responsibility as described in  
23 section 29-2260.02 or of whom the department has legal custody as  
24 described in section 43-905;

25 (6) ~~(5)~~ Foster family home has the definition found in 42 U.S.C.  
26 672(c), as such section existed on January 1, 2017 ~~2016~~, and also  
27 includes the definition as found in section 71-1901; ~~and~~

28 (7) Juvenile facility means a residential child-caring agency as  
29 defined in section 71-1926, a juvenile detention facility or staff secure  
30 juvenile facility as defined in section 83-4,125, or a youth  
31 rehabilitation and treatment center;



1           (8) Office means the Office of Probation of Administration; and

2           (9) {6} Reasonable and prudent parent standard means the standard  
3 characterized by careful and sensible parental decisions that maintain  
4 the health, safety, and best interest of a child while at the same time  
5 encouraging the emotional and developmental growth of the child that a  
6 caregiver shall use when determining whether to allow a child in foster  
7 care under the responsibility of the state to participate in  
8 extracurricular, enrichment, cultural, and social activities.

9           Sec. 6. Section 43-4704, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
10 amended to read:

11           43-4704 Every child placed in a foster family home or child-care  
12 institution or a juvenile facility shall be entitled to access to  
13 reasonable opportunities to participate in age or developmentally  
14 appropriate extracurricular, enrichment, cultural, and social activities.

15           Sec. 7. Section 43-4706, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
16 amended to read:

17           43-4706 (1) The department or office shall ensure that each foster  
18 family home, ~~and~~ child-care institution, and juvenile facility in which a  
19 child in foster care has been placed has policies consistent with this  
20 section and that such foster family home, ~~and~~ child-care institution, and  
21 juvenile facility promote and protect the ability of children to  
22 participate in age or developmentally appropriate extracurricular,  
23 enrichment, cultural, and social activities.

24           (2) A caregiver shall use a reasonable and prudent parent standard  
25 in determining whether to give permission for a child to participate in  
26 extracurricular, enrichment, cultural, and social activities. The  
27 caregiver shall take reasonable steps to determine the appropriateness of  
28 the activity in consideration of the child's age, maturity, and  
29 developmental level.

30           (3) The department or office shall require, as a condition of each  
31 contract or other placement agreement entered into by a child-care

1 institution or juvenile facility to provide foster care to any child  
2 served by the department or office, the presence onsite of at least one  
3 official who, with respect to any child placed at the child-care  
4 institution or juvenile facility, is designated to be the caregiver who  
5 is (a) authorized to apply the reasonable and prudent parent standard to  
6 decisions involving the participation of the child in age or  
7 developmentally appropriate activities, (b) provided with training in how  
8 to use and apply the reasonable and prudent parent standard in the same  
9 manner as foster parents are provided training in section 43-4707, and  
10 (c) required to consult whenever possible with the child and staff  
11 members identified by the child in applying the reasonable and prudent  
12 parent standard.

13 (4) The department or office shall also require, as a condition of  
14 each contract or other placement agreement entered into by a child-care  
15 institution or juvenile facility to provide foster care, that all  
16 children placed at the child-care institution or juvenile facility be  
17 notified verbally and in writing, in an age or developmentally  
18 appropriate manner, of the process for making a request to participate in  
19 age or developmentally appropriate activities and that a written notice  
20 of this process be posted in an accessible, public place in the child-  
21 care institution or juvenile facility.

22 (5)(a) The department or office shall also require, as a condition  
23 of each contract or other placement agreement entered into by a child-  
24 care institution or juvenile facility to provide foster care, a written  
25 normalcy plan describing how the department or office will ensure all  
26 children have access to age or developmentally appropriate activities to  
27 be filed with the department or office and a normalcy report regarding  
28 the implementation of the normalcy plan to be filed with the department  
29 or state annually by June 30.

30 (b) The normalcy plan shall specifically address:

31 (i) Efforts to address barriers to normalcy that are inherent in a

1 child-care institution or juvenile facility setting;

2 (ii) Normalcy efforts for all children placed at the child-care  
3 institution or juvenile facility, including, but not limited to,  
4 relationships with family, age or developmentally appropriate access to  
5 technology and technological skills, education and school stability,  
6 access to healthcare and information, and access to a sustainable and  
7 durable routine;

8 (iii) Procedures for developing goals and action steps in the child-  
9 care institution's or juvenile facility's case plan and case planning  
10 process related to participation in age or developmentally appropriate  
11 activities for each child placed at the child-care institution or  
12 juvenile facility;

13 (iv) Policies on staffing, supervision, permission, and consent to  
14 age or developmentally appropriate activities consistent with the  
15 reasonable and prudent parent standard;

16 (v) A list of activities that the child-care institution or juvenile  
17 facility provides on site and a list of activities in the community  
18 regarding which the child-care institution or juvenile facility will make  
19 children aware, promote, and support access;

20 (vi) Identified accommodations and support services so that children  
21 with disabilities and special needs can participate in age or  
22 developmentally appropriate activities to the same extent as their peers;

23 (vii) A policy that children are not enrolled in an interim-program  
24 school as defined in section 79-1119.01 unless an approved and valid  
25 individualized education plan dictates otherwise;

26 (viii) The individualized needs of all children involved in the  
27 system;

28 (ix) Efforts to reduce disproportionate impact of the system and  
29 services on families and children of color and other populations  
30 identified in this subsection (5); and

31 (x) Efforts to develop a youth board to assist in implementing the

1 reasonable and prudent parent standard in the child-care institution or  
2 juvenile facility and promoting and supporting normalcy.

3 (c) The normalcy report shall specifically address:

4 (i) Compliance with each of the plan requirements set forth in  
5 subdivisions (b)(i) through (x) of this subsection; and

6 (ii) Compliance with subsections (3) and (4) of this section.

7 (6) The requirements of subsections (3) through (5) of this section  
8 shall also be incorporated into licensing requirements for all child-care  
9 institutions and juvenile facilities.

10 (7) The department or office shall make normalcy plans and reports  
11 received from contracting and licensed child-care institutions and  
12 juvenile facilities pursuant to subsection (5) of this section available  
13 upon request to the Nebraska Strengthening Families Act Committee, the  
14 Nebraska Children's Commission, the Department of Health and Human  
15 Services, the Governor, and electronically to the Health and Human  
16 Services Committee of the Legislature, by September 1 of each year.

17 (8) All youth rehabilitation and treatment centers shall meet the  
18 requirements of subsections (1), (3), (4), and (5) of this section and  
19 shall provide the required assurances, plans, and reports annually to the  
20 Office of Juvenile Services by June 30 of each year.

21 (9) The department and the Office of Probation Administration shall  
22 adopt and promulgate rules and regulations regarding contracting and  
23 licensure consistent with this section and shall revoke any rules or  
24 regulations inconsistent with this section on or before October 15, 2017.

25 Sec. 8. Section 43-4707, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
26 amended to read:

27 43-4707 The department shall adopt and promulgate rules and  
28 regulations regarding training for foster parents so that foster parents  
29 will be prepared adequately with the appropriate knowledge and skills  
30 relating to the reasonable and prudent parent standard for the  
31 participation of the child in age or developmentally appropriate

1 activities, including knowledge and skills relating to the developmental  
2 stages of the cognitive, emotional, physical, and behavioral capacities  
3 of the child and knowledge and skills related to applying the standard to  
4 decisions such as whether to allow the child to engage in  
5 extracurricular, enrichment, cultural, and social activities, including  
6 sports, field trips, and overnight activities lasting one or more days  
7 and to decisions involving the signing of permission slips and arranging  
8 of transportation for the child to and from extracurricular, enrichment,  
9 cultural, and social activities. The department shall also adopt and  
10 promulgate rules and regulations regarding training for foster parents on  
11 recognizing human trafficking, including both sex trafficking and labor  
12 trafficking.

13 Sec. 9. Section 43-4709, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
14 amended to read:

15 43-4709 (1) Nothing in the Nebraska Strengthening Families Act or  
16 the application of the reasonable and prudent parent standard shall  
17 affect the parental rights of a parent whose parental rights have not  
18 been terminated pursuant to section 43-292 with respect to his or her  
19 child.

20 (2) To the extent possible, a parent shall be consulted about ~~his or~~  
21 ~~her views on~~ the child's participation in age or developmentally  
22 appropriate activities in the planning process. The department or office  
23 shall document such consultation in the report filed pursuant to section  
24 43-297.01 or subsection (3) of section 43-285.

25 (3) The child's participation in extracurricular, enrichment,  
26 cultural, and social activities shall be considered at any family team  
27 meeting.

28 Sec. 10. Section 43-4710, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
29 amended to read:

30 43-4710 The department or office shall document in the report  
31 pursuant to section 43-297.01 or subsection (3) of section 43-285 the

1 steps the department or office is taking to ensure that:

2 (1) The child's caregiver is following the reasonable and prudent  
3 parent standard;

4 (2) The child has regular, ongoing opportunities to engage in age or  
5 developmentally appropriate activities;

6 (3) The department or office has consulted with the child in an age  
7 or developmentally appropriate manner about the opportunities of the  
8 child to participate in age or developmentally appropriate activities;  
9 and

10 (4) Any barriers to participation in age or developmentally  
11 appropriate activities are identified and addressed.

12 Sec. 11. Section 43-4711, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
13 amended to read:

14 43-4711 (1) At every dispositional, review, or permanency planning  
15 hearing, the juvenile court shall make a determination regarding:

16 (a) The steps the department or office is taking to ensure the  
17 child's foster family home, ~~or~~ child-care institution, or juvenile  
18 facility is following the reasonable and prudent parent standard;

19 (b) Whether the child has regular, ongoing opportunities to engage  
20 in age or developmentally appropriate activities; and

21 (c) Whether the department or office has consulted with the child in  
22 an age or developmentally appropriate manner about the opportunities of  
23 the child to participate in such activities.

24 (2) In making this determination, the juvenile court shall ask the  
25 child, in an age or developmentally appropriate manner, about his or her  
26 access to regular and ongoing opportunities to engage in age or  
27 developmentally appropriate activities. If the child, the guardian ad  
28 litem, the caregiver, or a party to the proceeding believes that the  
29 child has not had regular, ongoing opportunities to engage in such  
30 activities, the juvenile court may make appropriate findings or orders to  
31 ensure the child has regular, ongoing opportunities to engage in age and

1 developmentally appropriate activities. In making such findings or  
2 orders, the court shall give deference to the caregiver in making  
3 decisions within the reasonable and prudent parent standard.

4 Sec. 12. Section 43-4712, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
5 amended to read:

6 43-4712 The department, the office, and the courts shall work  
7 collaboratively to remove or reduce barriers to a child's participation  
8 in age or developmentally appropriate activities.

9 Sec. 13. Section 43-4713, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
10 amended to read:

11 43-4713 (1) The plan as provided in section 43-297.01 or in  
12 subsection (2) of section 43-285 for any child in a foster family home,  
13 ~~or child-care institution, or juvenile facility~~ who has attained fourteen  
14 years of age shall include:

15 (a) A document that describes the rights of the child with respect  
16 to education, health, visitation, and court participation, the right to  
17 be provided with a copy of any consumer report pursuant to 42 U.S.C.  
18 675(5)(I), as such section existed on January 1, 2016, and the right to  
19 stay safe and avoid exploitation. The document shall also describe the  
20 right of the child to be provided documents relating to his or her  
21 education, health, visitation, court participation, and the right to stay  
22 safe and avoid exploitation. The document shall also describe additional  
23 rights of the child, including, but not limited to, the right to:

- 24 (i) Understand the system or systems in which the child is involved;  
25 (ii) Have his or her voice heard in his or her case;  
26 (iii) Maintain family connections;  
27 (iv) Access personal information;  
28 (v) Honest and clear communication;  
29 (vi) Have his or her basic needs met;  
30 (vii) Learn life skills needed to successfully transition to  
31 adulthood; and

1 (viii) Live in the most family-like setting that is safe, healthy,  
2 and comfortable and meets the child's needs; and

3 (b) A signed acknowledgment by the child that the child has been  
4 provided with a copy of the document described in this section and that  
5 the rights contained in the document have been explained to the child in  
6 an age or developmentally appropriate manner.

7 (2) The document shall be provided to the child in a hard copy and  
8 offered to the child within seventy-two hours of being placed in a foster  
9 family home, ~~or~~ child-care institution, or juvenile facility and at every  
10 dispositional, review, and permanency planning hearing.

11 (3) The department or office shall require, as a condition of each  
12 contract entered into by a child-care institution or juvenile facility to  
13 provide foster care, that the child-care institution or juvenile facility  
14 publicly post the document described in this section in an accessible  
15 location. All youth rehabilitation and treatment centers shall also  
16 publicly post the document described in this section in an accessible  
17 location.

18 Sec. 14. The department or office shall establish a procedure for  
19 the immediate and public distribution of a current picture and  
20 information about a child who is missing from a foster care or out-of-  
21 home placement, including posting the child's picture and information on  
22 social media. Such information shall be subject to state and federal  
23 confidentiality laws and shall not state that the child is under the  
24 care, custody, or supervision of the department or office.

25 Sec. 15. Section 43-4714, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
26 amended to read:

27 43-4714 The department shall adopt and promulgate rules and  
28 regulations to carry out the Nebraska Strengthening Families Act and  
29 shall revoke any rules or regulations inconsistent with the act by  
30 October 15, 2017 ~~2016~~.

31 Sec. 16. Original sections 43-2,108, 43-4218, 43-4701, 43-4702,



1 43-4703, 43-4704, 43-4706, 43-4707, 43-4709, 43-4710, 43-4711, 43-4712,  
2 43-4713, and 43-4714, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, are repealed.  
3 Sec. 17. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when  
4 passed and approved according to law.