

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by Prior Reference
Vote:	9 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Gallegos, Gelser, Gilliam, Gomberg, Keny-Guyer, Olson, Whisnant, Whitsett, Tomei
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Regina Wilson, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/3, 4/17

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Establishes community home model for placement of children and wards in legal custody of Department of Human Services as viable, compelling alternative placement option to traditional foster care. Creates pilot projects. Requires study and evaluation of established community homes. Authorizes funding sources for community model home. Requires department submit report to legislature.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Reduction in stability from frequent residential moving
- Youth in and out of residential treatment
- Foster system
- Safe Families Act

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces measure.

BACKGROUND: National trends in child placement support stability and continuity to ensure the welfare of a child. Based on certain standards and assessments, out-of-home placement options are variable. House Bill 3445 A establishes a community home model for the placement of children and wards in legal custody of the Department of Human Services (DHS) as an alternative to traditional foster care placements and creates pilot projects.