



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
Administration on Children, Youth and Families
330 C Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

November 14, 2018

Rebecca Kapusta
Interim Secretary
Florida Department of Children and Families
1317 Winewood Boulevard
Building 1
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Dear Interim Secretary Kapusta:

The Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA), enacted as part of Public Law (P.L.) 115-123, amended many provisions of titles IV-B and IV-E of the Social Security Act (the Act). On July 9, 2018, the Children's Bureau issued Program Instruction (PI) ACYF-CB-PI-18-07 to provide instructions to title IV-E agencies on amendments they are required to make to their Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance Plan to address provisions amended or added by FFPSA. The PI provided instructions and deadlines for submitting plan amendments, based on the effective date of the specific provisions. The PI also provided instructions for requesting a delay of effective dates for certain title IV-B and IV-E plan requirements, where permitted by law.

On September 28, 2018, Florida submitted a title IV-E Plan amendment to the Regional Office. This submission addressed the following requirements:

Title IV-E plan provisions effective in federal law on October 1, 2018

- Sections 472(j) and 472(a)(2)(C) of the Act addressing foster care maintenance payments for children placed with parents in a licensed residential family-based treatment facility for substance abuse; and
- Section 471(a)(20)(D) of the Act addressing criminal record and registry checks for adults working in child-care institutions.

Plan Approval

We are pleased to notify you that we have reviewed and approved the revised Florida title IV-E plan addressing the requirements of the FFPSA indicated above. The effective date of your revised title IV-E plan is July 1, 2018. We wish to thank you and your program and legal staff for your work to finalize Florida's title IV-E Plan for approval

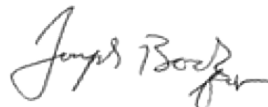
Florida also submitted Attachment C to ACYF-CB-PI-18-07 requesting a delay in implementing the following provisions:

- Section 471(a)(37) of the Act providing a certification on preventing increases to the juvenile justice population
- Section 472(k) of the Act addressing limitations on title IV-E Foster Care maintenance payments for placements that are not foster family homes;
- Section 472(c) of the Act addressing the definition of foster family homes; and
- Section 475A(c) of the Act addressing qualified residential treatment program (QRTP) placements.

The delayed effective date for these provisions is September 29, 2021. Enclosed is a signed copy of Attachment C. We appreciate Florida alerting us to your plans with respect to these provisions relating to limitations on title IV-E foster care maintenance payments for congregate care placements. Please note that submission of this request at this time is non-binding. Title IV-E agencies have until September 29, 2019 to make a final decision; therefore you may withdraw or revise your request to delay implementation of these provisions at any time before that date.

Again, thank you for your submission. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Delores A. Varner, Child Welfare Program specialist in Region 4, at 404-562-2885 or by e-mail at Delores.Varner@acf.hhs.gov. You may also contact Shalonda Cawthon, Child Welfare Regional Program Manager in Region 4 at 404-562-2242 or by e-mail at Shalonda.Cawthon@acf.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,



Jerry Milner
Associate Commissioner
Children's Bureau

cc: Gail Collins, Director; CB, Division of Program Implementation; Washington, DC
Tina Naugler, Director of Regional Programs; CB, Washington, DC
Shalonda Cawthon, Child Welfare Regional Program Manager; CB, Region 4; Atlanta, GA
Delores A. Varner, Child and Family Program Specialist; CB, Region 4; Atlanta, GA