

5-524. CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL PROVIDE CHILD WELFARE SERVICES TO A CHILD AND THE CHILD'S PARENT OR GUARDIAN:

(1) TO ASSIST IN PREVENTING THE NECESSITY OF PLACING THE CHILD OUTSIDE OF THE CHILD'S HOME;

(2) TO REUNITE THE CHILD WITH THE CHILD'S PARENT OR GUARDIAN AFTER THE CHILD HAS BEEN PLACED IN FOSTER CARE; OR

(3) IF THE CHILD HAS BEEN PLACED IN FOSTER CARE AND CANNOT RETURN TO THE CHILD'S PARENT OR GUARDIAN, TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT AN ALTERNATIVE PERMANENT PLAN FOR THE CHILD.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This section formerly appeared as Article 88A, § 61(a).

In the introductory language of this section, "to the extent that funds are appropriated in the budget", which formerly modified "shall", is deleted as unnecessary.

The only other changes are in style.

See Article 88A, § 3(a)(1) of the Code, which provides that the Administration may continue child welfare assistance, including foster care, until a child is 21 years old.

Defined terms: "Administration" § 5-501
"Foster care" § 5-501

5-525. FOSTER CARE PROGRAM -- IN GENERAL.

(A) PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.

THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL ESTABLISH A PROGRAM OF FOSTER CARE FOR MINOR CHILDREN:

(1) WHO ARE PLACED IN THE CUSTODY OF A LOCAL DEPARTMENT, FOR A PERIOD OF NOT MORE THAN 6 MONTHS, BY A PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN UNDER A WRITTEN AGREEMENT VOLUNTARILY ENTERED INTO WITH THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT; OR

(2) WHO ARE ~~ADJUDICATED--TO--BE~~ ABUSED, ABANDONED, NEGLECTED, OR DEPENDENT, IF A JUVENILE COURT:

(I) HAS DETERMINED THAT CONTINUED RESIDENCE IN THE CHILD'S HOME IS CONTRARY TO THE CHILD'S WELFARE; AND

(II) HAS COMMITTED THE CHILD TO THE CUSTODY OR GUARDIANSHIP OF A LOCAL DEPARTMENT.