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H.379

Introduced by Representatives Woodward of Johnson and Martin of Wolcott

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: DCF; child support; delinquent child

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to limit the ability of the Department for Children and Families to seek child support to neglectful parents of delinquent children.

An act relating to limiting the Department for Children and Families' ability to seek child support from parents

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 33 V.S.A. § 5230 is amended to read:

§ 5230. DISPOSITION CASE PLAN

\* \* \*

(c) Case plan for child in custody. If a child is in the custody of the Commissioner at the time of disposition or if a transfer of custody is requested, the case plan shall include the following additional information:

(1) A permanency goal if the child is in custody. The long-term goal for a child found to be delinquent and placed in the custody of the Department is a safe and permanent home. A disposition case plan shall include a permanency

1 goal and an estimated date for achieving the permanency goal. The plan shall  
2 specify whether permanency will be achieved through reunification with a  
3 parent, custodian, or guardian; adoption; permanent guardianship; or other  
4 permanent placement. In addition to a primary permanency goal, the plan may  
5 identify a concurrent permanency goal.

6 (2) A recommendation with respect to custody for the child and a  
7 recommendation for parent-child contact if appropriate.

8 (3) A request for child support if the child's parents have been  
9 substantiated for abuse or neglect and:

10 (A) the child has been placed in the custody of the Department; or

11 (B) the Department recommends a transfer of custody.

12 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

13 This act shall take effect on June 30, 2015.