



**ARIZONA STATE SENATE**  
*Fifty-Second Legislature, Second Regular Session*

FACT SHEET FOR H.B. 2260

foster care review board; continuation

Purpose

Continues the Arizona Foster Care Review Board (FCRB) for eight years.

Background

The FCRB was established in 1978 to review and coordinate the activities of local foster care review boards (local boards) that advise the juvenile court regarding the progress made toward permanent placement of children who have been placed in out-of-home care by the Arizona Department of Child Safety (DCS). Statute requires the local boards to review the cases of children placed in out-of-home care within six months of placement and at least once every six months thereafter, and submit findings and recommendations to the juvenile court within 30 days following the review. This meets the federal requirement in Title IV-E of the Social Security Act, which requires states to establish a system for conducting six-month reviews. The purpose of the reviews is to: 1) determine and advise the juvenile court of the adequacy of efforts and progress toward permanency; 2) encourage and facilitate reunification when possible and stability in the child's placement; and 3) assist in informing parents and others of their rights and responsibilities regarding the child (A.R.S. § 8-515.03).

The Committee of Reference consisting of members of the House of Representatives Children and Family Services and Senate Health and Human Services Committees recommended on December 8, 2015, that the FCRB be continued for an additional eight years.

The FCRB is part of the Dependent Children's Services Division (Division) of the Arizona Supreme Court, Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC). As of 2015, the FCRB's organizational structure had the following three main components: 1) 44.9 FTE positions, of which 1 was vacant; 2) 137 local boards statewide; and 3) a 43-member State Board. The FY 2016 budget appropriated \$3,212,300 to the FCRB from the state General Fund. The AOC also allocates additional state and federal monies to the FCRB to help pay for its operating costs. In FY 2015, these additional monies were estimated to total nearly \$600,000 (Office of the Auditor General).

Provisions

1. Continues, retroactive to July 1, 2016, the FCRB until July 1, 2024.
2. Repeals the FCRB on January 1, 2025.

FACT SHEET

H.B. 2260

Page 2

3. Contains a purpose statement.
4. Becomes effective on the general effective date, with a retroactive provision as noted.

House Action

CFA	1/25/16	DP	8-0-0-1
3 <sup>rd</sup> Read	2/8/16		56-0-4

Prepared by Senate Research

February 25, 2016

AW/rf