



# ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Fifty-fifth Legislature  
First Regular Session

Senate: HHS DP 8-0-0-0 | 3<sup>rd</sup> Read DP 29-0-1-0

House: HHS DP 9-0-0-0 | 3<sup>rd</sup> Read DP 57-1-2-0

## **SB 1018: DCS; report requirement**

**Sponsor: Senator Barto, LD 15**

**Transmitted to the Governor**

### **Overview**

Instructs the Arizona Department of Child Safety (DCS) and the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) to submit, by December 31, 2021, a report regarding adoptive children with complex trauma.

### **History**

DCS was established with the primary purpose of protecting children. In order to achieve this purpose, statute currently requires DCS to: 1) investigate reports of abuse and neglect; 2) assess, promote and support the safety of a child in an appropriate placement in response to allegations of abuse or neglect; 3) work with law enforcement regarding reports that include criminal conduct allegations; and 4) coordinate services to achieve and maintain permanency on behalf of the child, strengthen the family and provide prevention, intervention and treatment services ([A.R.S. § 8-451](#)).

Established in 1981, [AHCCCS](#) is Arizona's Medicaid program that oversees contracted health plans to coordinated and provide physical and behavioral health care to individuals and families who qualify for Medicaid and other medical assistance programs. In 2016, AHCCCS published a [practice tool](#) on the unique behavioral health service needs of children, youth and families involved with DCS.

### **Provisions**

1. Requires DCS and AHCCCS to report, by December 31, 2021, to the Chairpersons of the Health and Human Services Committee in both the House of Representatives and the Senate the following information:
  - a) System improvements for children adopted out of foster care with complex trauma that results in dangerous behaviors;
  - b) An evaluation, including outcome data, of programs and services offered by other states to address complex trauma; and
  - c) Mechanisms within DCS for suspending parental rights when the adoptive child is a danger to the family as corroborated by law enforcement while maintaining the goal of permanency as required by federal law or other alternatives to terminating parental rights. (Sec. 1)

Prop 105 (45 votes)

Prop 108 (40 votes)

Emergency (40 votes)

Fiscal Note