

I_132_0516-2

132nd General Assembly
Regular Session
2017-2018

Sub. H. B. No. 126

A BILL

To amend sections 5101.85, 5101.851, and 5101.853; 1
to amend, for the purpose of adopting new 2
section numbers as indicated in parentheses, 3
sections 5101.852 (5101.856) and 5101.853 4
(5101.854); and to enact new sections 5101.852 5
and 5101.853 and section 5101.855 of the Revised 6
Code to require a region-based kinship care 7
navigator program. 8

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That sections 5101.85, 5101.851, and 5101.853 9
be amended; sections 5101.852 (5101.856) and 5101.853 (5101.854) 10
be amended for the purpose of adopting new section numbers as 11
indicated in parentheses; and new sections 5101.852 and 5101.853 12
and section 5101.855 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as 13
follows: 14

Sec. 5101.85. As used in sections 5101.851 to ~~5101.853~~ 15
5101.856 of the Revised Code, "kinship caregiver" means any of 16
the following who is eighteen years of age or older and is 17
caring for a child in place of the child's parents: 18



(A) The following individuals related by blood or adoption to the child:	19 20
(1) Grandparents, including grandparents with the prefix "great," "great-great," or "great-great-great";	21 22
(2) Siblings;	23
(3) Aunts, uncles, nephews, and nieces, including such relatives with the prefix "great," "great-great," "grand," or "great-grand";	24 25 26
(4) First cousins and first cousins once removed.	27
(B) Stepparents and stepsiblings of the child;	28
(C) Spouses and former spouses of individuals named in divisions (A) and (B) of this section;	29 30
(D) A legal guardian of the child;	31
(E) A legal custodian of the child.	32
Sec. 5101.851. The department of job and family services may shall establish a statewide program of kinship care navigators <u>navigator program</u> to assist kinship caregivers who are seeking information regarding, or assistance obtaining, services and benefits available at the state and local level that address the needs of those caregivers residing in each county. The program shall provide to kinship caregivers information and referral services and assistance obtaining support services including the following:	33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41
(A) Publicly funded child care;	42
(B) Respite care;	43
(C) Training related to caring for special needs children;	44

(D) A toll-free telephone number that may be called to 45
obtain basic information about the rights of, and services 46
available to, kinship caregivers; 47

(E) Legal services. 48

Sec. 5101.852. The director of job and family services 49
shall divide the state into not less than five and not greater 50
than twelve regions, for the kinship care navigator program 51
under section 5101.851 of the Revised Code. The director shall 52
take the following into consideration when establishing the 53
regions: 54

(A) The population size; 55

(B) The estimated number of kinship caregivers; 56

(C) The expertise of kinship navigators; 57

(D) Any other factor the director considers relevant. 58

Sec. 5101.853. Each kinship care navigator region 59
established under section 5101.852 of the Revised Code shall 60
provide information and referral services and assistance in 61
obtaining support services for kinship caregivers within its 62
region. 63

~~Sec. 5101.853~~ 5101.854. The ~~Not later than one year after~~ 64
the effective date of this amendment, the department of job and 65
family services may shall adopt rules to implement the kinship 66
care navigators navigator program. The rules shall be adopted 67
under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, except that rules 68
governing fiscal and administrative matters related to 69
implementation of the ~~navigators~~ program are internal management 70
rules and shall be adopted under section 111.15 of the Revised 71
Code. 72

Sec. 5101.855. (A) (1) The kinship care navigator program shall be funded to the extent that general revenue funds have been appropriated by the general assembly for that purpose. 73
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(2) The director of job and family services shall take any action necessary to obtain funds available for the kinship care navigator program under Title IV-E of the "Social Security Act," 94 Stat. 501 (1980), 42 U.S.C. 670, as amended. 76
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(B) The department shall pay the full nonfederal share for the kinship care navigator program. No county department of job and family services or public children services agency shall be responsible for the cost of the program. 80
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~~Sec. 5101.852~~ 5101.856. Within available funds, the department of job and family services shall make payments to public children services agencies for the purpose of permitting the agencies to provide kinship care navigator information and referral services and assistance obtaining support services to kinship caregivers pursuant to the kinship care navigator program. The department may provide training and technical assistance concerning the needs of kinship caregivers to employees of public children services agencies and to persons or entities that serve kinship caregivers or perform the duties of a kinship care navigator and are under contract with an agency. 84
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Section 2. That existing sections 5101.85, 5101.851, 5101.852, and 5101.853 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 95
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