

Session 126 - (2025-2026)

S*0415 (Rat #0103, Act #0099 of 2026) General Bill, By Young, Elliott, Sutton, Ott, Devine, Reichenbach and Zell

Summary: Child Welfare Caregivers

AN ACT TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 63-7-20, RELATING TO CHILDREN'S CODE DEFINITIONS, SO AS TO ADD THE TERM "LICENSED"; BY AMENDING SECTION 63-9-1110, RELATING TO ADOPTION BY A STEPPARENT OR RELATIVE, SO AS TO APPLY TO CHILDREN PLACED WITH RELATIVES OR FICTIVE KIN FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADOPTION; BY AMENDING SECTION 63-7-2320, RELATING TO THE KINSHIP FOSTER CARE PROGRAM, SO AS TO LOWER THE MINIMUM AGE OF A KINSHIP FOSTER PARENT FROM TWENTY-ONE TO EIGHTEEN AND TO ALLOW THE DEPARTMENT TO USE DIFFERENT STANDARDS WHEN LICENSING RELATIVES AND FICTIVE KIN; BY AMENDING SECTION 63-7-2350, RELATING TO RESTRICTIONS ON FOSTER CARE, ADOPTION, OR LEGAL GUARDIAN PLACEMENTS, SO AS TO MAKE CONFORMING CHANGES; AND BY AMENDING SECTION 63-7-2400, RELATING TO THE NUMBER OF FOSTER CHILDREN WHO MAY BE PLACED IN A FOSTER HOME, SO AS TO REMOVE THERAPEUTIC FOSTER CARE PLACEMENT LIMITATIONS FROM KINSHIP FOSTER CARE PLACEMENTS. - RATIFIED TITLE

03/04/25	Senate	Introduced and read first time (Senate Journal-page 9)
03/04/25	Senate	Referred to Committee on Family and Veterans' Services (Senate Journal-page 9)
03/26/25	Senate	Committee report: Favorable Family and Veterans' Services (Senate Journal-page 15)
03/28/25		Scrivener's error corrected
04/01/25	Senate	Read second time (Senate Journal-page 26)
04/01/25	Senate	Roll call Ayes-45 Nays-0 (Senate Journal-page 26)
04/02/25	Senate	Read third time and sent to House (Senate Journal-page 9)
04/03/25	House	Introduced and read first time (House Journal-page 27)
04/03/25	House	Referred to Committee on Judiciary (House Journal-page 27)
02/03/26	House	Committee report: Favorable with amendment Judiciary (House Journal-page 6)
02/05/26	House	Amended (House Journal-page 27)
02/05/26	House	Read second time (House Journal-page 27)
02/05/26	House	Roll call Yeas-109 Nays-0 (House Journal-page 28)
02/05/26	House	Unanimous consent for third reading on next legislative day (House Journal-page 29)
02/06/26	House	Read third time and returned to Senate with amendments
02/11/26	Senate	Concurred in House amendment and enrolled
02/25/26		Ratified R 103
02/27/26		Signed By Governor
03/05/26		Effective date 02/27/26
03/05/26		Act No. 99