

HB 2118 -- RESPITE CARE FOR FOSTER CHILDREN

SPONSOR: Thomas

Currently, respite care services are provided to participants with skilled nursing needs in order to offer temporary relief to the caregiver normally providing the care.

This bill specifies that a resource parent with any unused units of respite care that were allotted to him or her in a 12-month period, but that were not used due to the child's special needs as confirmed by the child's doctor or resource parent, shall be reimbursed the monetary value of the unused units in that 12-month period. The resource parents must submit a form developed by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education requesting the reimbursement, and the Department shall complete the reimbursement within 30 days of receiving the request. Any moneys received through the provisions of this bill by the resource parent shall not be considered reportable income.

The bill also specifies that an adoptive parent with any unused child care maintenance or subsidy days that were or should have been allotted to him or her in a 12-month period, but that were not used due to the child's special needs as confirmed by the child's doctor or adoptive parent, shall be reimbursed the money value of the unused allotted days. The adoptive parent must submit a form developed by the Department requesting the reimbursement, and the Department shall complete the reimbursement within 30 days of receiving the request. Any moneys received through the provisions of this bill by the adoptive parent shall not be considered reportable income.