

# SENATE BILL No. 973

June 10, 2014, Introduced by Senator CASWELL and referred to the Committee on Families, Seniors and Human Services.

A bill to create the child welfare partnership council; and to prescribe the powers and duties of the council and certain state departments and agencies.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1           Sec. 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "child  
2 welfare partnership council act".

3           Sec. 2. As used in this act:

4           (a) "Child placing agency" means that term as defined in  
5 section 1 of 1973 PA 116, MCL 722.111.

6           (b) "Council" means the child welfare partnership council  
7 created in section 3.

8           (c) "Department" means the department of human services.

9           (d) "Director" means the director of the department.

1           Sec. 3. (1) The department shall establish and operate a child  
2 welfare partnership council.

3           (2) The council shall consist of 24 members as follows,  
4 appointed by the governor:

5           (a) Six members representing the department, including the  
6 director or his or her designee.

7           (b) The director of the department of community health or his  
8 or her designee.

9           (c) The director of the department of education or his or her  
10 designee.

11           (d) The chair of the senate appropriations subcommittee  
12 dealing with human services matters or his or her designee.

13           (e) The chair of the house of representatives appropriations  
14 subcommittee dealing with human services matters or his or her  
15 designee.

16           (f) Six members representing private child welfare agencies.

17           (g) One judge designated by the Michigan probate judges  
18 association.

19           (h) One member representing the state court administrative  
20 office.

21           (i) Four county administrators as follows:

22           (i) Two county commissioners or administrators designated by  
23 the Michigan association of counties.

24           (ii) One county commissioner or administrator from the first  
25 pilot county.

26           (iii) One county commissioner or administrator from the second  
27 pilot county.

1           (j) Two court administrators, 1 designated by the Michigan  
2 association for family court administration.

3           (3) The director or his or her designee and 1 council member  
4 who represents a private child welfare agency shall serve as co-  
5 chairs of the council.

6           (4) Members of the committee shall serve for terms of 4 years  
7 or until a successor is appointed, whichever is later, except that  
8 of the members first appointed 6 shall serve for 1 year, 6 shall  
9 serve for 2 years, 6 shall serve for 3 years, and 7 shall serve for  
10 4 years.

11           (5) If a vacancy occurs on the committee, the governor shall  
12 make an appointment for the unexpired term in the same manner as  
13 the original appointment.

14           (6) The governor may reject any name submitted for appointment  
15 under subsection (2)(f) to (j). If the governor rejects a name  
16 submitted for appointment, a new name shall be submitted to the  
17 governor for the appointment in the same manner as described in  
18 subsection (2)(f) to (j).

19           Sec. 4. The council shall do, at a minimum, both of the  
20 following:

21           (a) Guide the ongoing planning and procurement processes and  
22 continuous quality improvement throughout and after the full  
23 implementation of performance-based funding in the state-  
24 administered child welfare program.

25           (b) Consist of representative and relevant stakeholders who  
26 are involved in the operation and funding of the state's child  
27 welfare system.

1           Sec. 5. Not later than December 1, 2015, and annually after  
2 that, the council and the department shall provide a report to the  
3 legislature that describes the progress made toward implementation  
4 of child welfare performance-based funding, any issues that require  
5 statutory changes, and any resources needed for the performance of  
6 public and private child welfare agencies and the courts in  
7 accomplishing system goals and measurable outcomes.