

By: West

S.B. No. 1131

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to monetary assistance provided by the Department of
3 Family and Protective Services to certain relatives and designated
4 caregivers.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

6 SECTION 1. Section 264.755, Family Code, is amended by
7 amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (f) to read as
8 follows:

9 (b) Monetary assistance provided under this section must
10 include a one-time cash payment to the caregiver ~~on the initial~~
11 ~~placement of a child or a sibling group~~. The amount of the cash
12 payment, as determined by the department, may not exceed \$1,000 for
13 each child. The payment for placement of a sibling group must be at
14 least \$1,000 for the group, but may not exceed \$1,000 for each child
15 in the group. The cash payment must be provided not later than the
16 60th day after the date of [en] the initial placement of each child
17 with the caregiver and is provided to assist the caregiver in
18 purchasing essential child-care items such as furniture and
19 clothing.

20 (f) The department shall reimburse a relative or other
21 designated caregiver annually for expenses permitted under
22 Subsection (c)(6). The initial reimbursement shall occur no later
23 than six months after placement of a child or sibling group.

24 SECTION 2. (a) Section 264.755(b), Family Code, as amended

1 by this Act, applies only to monetary assistance with respect to a
2 child who is initially placed with a relative or other designated
3 caregiver on or after the effective date of this Act. Monetary
4 assistance with respect to a child who is initially placed with a
5 relative or other designated caregiver before that date is governed
6 by the law in effect on the date of the initial placement, and the
7 former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

8 (b) Section 264.755(f), Family Code, as added by this Act,
9 applies only to the reimbursement of a relative or other designated
10 caregiver for expenses for which a completed request for
11 reimbursement is submitted to the Department of Family and
12 Protective Services on or after the effective date of this Act.

13 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.