86R2540 MM-D

By:  Howard H.B. No. 475

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to information for foster children who are pregnant or minor parents.

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

SECTION 1.  Subchapter B, Chapter 264, Family Code, is amended by adding Section 264.130 to read as follows:

Sec. 264.130.  PREGNANCY AND PARENTING INFORMATION. The department at developmentally appropriate stages shall provide to children in the managing conservatorship of the department who are pregnant or who are minor parents information on and support in providing safe environments for children, including information and support regarding:

(1)  safe sleeping arrangements;

(2)  suggestions for childproofing potentially dangerous settings in a home;

(3)  methods to cope with crying infants;

(4)  selection of appropriate substitute caregivers;

(5)  a child's early brain development, including the importance of meeting an infant's developmental needs by providing positive experiences and avoiding adverse experiences;

(6)  the importance of paternal involvement in a child's life;

(7)  the benefits of reading and talking to young children; and

(8)  the impact of perinatal mood disorders.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.