

Amend HB 2374 (house committee report) as follows:

(1) On page 2, strike line 19, and substitute "department, including the following outcomes:".

(2) On page 2, between lines 19 and 20, insert the following:

(A) ensuring the safety of children in placements;

(B) preventing entry into foster care through the use of family preservation services;

(C) reducing the amount of time that a child is placed in substitute care and is in the conservatorship of the department;

(D) increasing the placement of children with relative or kinship caregivers when possible;

(E) ensuring sufficient state capacity for foster care and kinship placements;

(F) reducing the number of children who age out of care and enhancing supports for youth at risk of aging out of care; and

(G) increasing the reunification of children with the biological parents of the children when possible;

(3) On page 2, line 22, strike "improving" and substitute "the department to partner with other state agencies and community organizations to improve".