

# Foster Care Reimbursement Rate Committee

A STATUTORY COMMITTEE; NRS§ 43- 4216





# Foster Care Reimbursement Rate Committee

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Co-Chairs: Peg Harriott, Child Savings Institute & Bill Williams, Compass

## Handouts

1. Historical Timeline
2. Statute §43-4217
3. Reimbursement Rate Fact Sheet
4. Active Member Table



# Historical Overview

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## Legislative Origins

- LR37 (2011)
- LB820 (2012)
- LB530 (2013)



# Statutory Charge §43-4216

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The Committee shall review and make recommendations to the Legislature, using prescribed methods, in the following general areas:

- Foster care reimbursement rates
  - The statewide standardized level of care assessment, and
  - Adoption assistance payments as required by §43-117
- The Committee must provide a report to the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature every 4 years beginning July 1, 2016.
- The next report is due to the Legislature July 1, 2020.



# Priorities

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The Rate Committee has prioritized the work for the 2020 legislative report into the following categories:

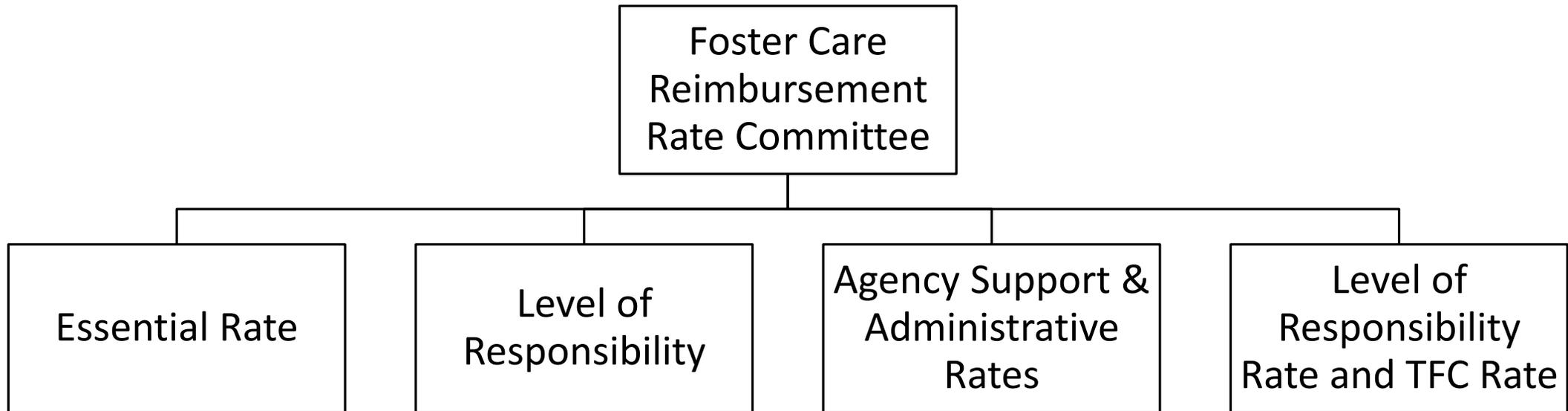
1. Foster parent reimbursement rate structure and corresponding Agency Administrative Support reimbursement rate structure based on an assessment of the caregiving responsibilities to meet the child's needs,
2. Creating a standardized 4<sup>th</sup> tier of reimbursement,
3. Creating a reimbursement rate structure for Treatment Family Care, and
4. Reviewing and making recommendations about a new (2018) Adoption Assistance Agreement pilot administered by DHHS

\* These are priorities which have been either outlined in the statutory charge or have been assigned by the Children's Commission to the Rate Committee to make recommendations.



# Workgroups

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# Research Methods

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- USDA Report on Expenditures on Children By Families Report (2017)
- Bureau of Labor Statistics inflation calculator
- Geographic considerations of urban and rural, low and middle income, 2 parent and single parent households
- Nebraska foster care data by region and single/married caregivers
- Survey of Nebraska Foster Parents and Agencies
- Use of past formulas and historical information and methodology
- National and border state research
- Nonprofit of the Midlands Salary index for reasonableness
- Nebraska Administrative Code for acceptable Medicaid rates
- Market rate of current Professional Foster Care services by PromiseShip and Juvenile Probation



# Going Forward

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- The proposed rate recommendations will be presented to the Nebraska Children's Commission in February 2020
- Seeking feedback and approval from the Nebraska Children's Commission
- A Commission co-chair next year
- Sponsoring Senator
- Advocacy and support heading into the legislative session 2021!