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HOUSE BILL 276

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1997

INTRODUCED BY

MAX COLL

AN ACT

RELATING TO CHILDREN; EXPANDING THE DEFINITION OF A FAMILY IN
NEED OF SERVICES; AMENDING A SECTION OF THE CHILDREN'S CODE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 32A-3A-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1993,
Chapter 77, Section 64) is amended to read:

"32A-3A-2. DEFINITIONS. --As used in the Family in Need of
Services Act:

A. "family in need of services" means:

(1) a family whose child, subject to compulsory
school attendance, is absent from school without authorized
excuse more than ten days during a school semester;

(2) a family whose child is absent from the
child's place of residence for twenty-four hours or more without
the consent of the parent, guardian or custodian;

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1 (3) a family in which the parent, guardian or
2 custodian of a child refuses to permit the child to live with
3 the parent, guardian or custodian; ~~[or]~~

4 (4) a family in which the child refuses to live
5 with his parent, guardian or custodian; or

6 (5) a family with a child who has been
7 emotionally, physically or sexually abused or neglected;

8 B. "family needs assessment" means an evaluation of
9 a child and family for the purpose of identifying the family's
10 specific strengths as well as the problems and needs of the
11 child and family;

12 C. "family services" means services that address
13 specific needs of the family and include:

- 14 (1) family preservation services;
15 (2) child care services;
16 (3) homemaker services;
17 (4) crisis counseling;
18 (5) transportation services;
19 (6) community mental health services;
20 (7) individual, family or group counseling
21 services;
22 (8) parent training services;
23 (9) recreational services; and
24 (10) community-based services; and

25 D. "plan for family services" or "plan" means an

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1 intervention plan based on the needs of the child and family
2 that incorporates the family's strengths and is developed as
3 part of the assessment and referral process. "

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