

INTERNAL

COMMUNICATION FORM

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Suspense

March 16, 2016

Subject: REISSUED BILL OF RIGHTS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE
FOSTER YOUTH/CHILD RIGHTS—original ICF subject

Originator: Lynne Kazama
586-7212

To: ALL CWS SECTIONS

From: CWSB/PDA

Date: 1/20/16

Memo No. 2

**Reissued
3/10/16**

- Some items from 587A-3 Guiding Principles for children in foster care needed to be incorporated into this new form. Revisions were, therefore, made to the "Rights of Children and Youth in Foster Care" form.
- The Form is in the R-drive in CWS Forms folder/Rights of Children and Youth folder.
- All other instructions stand as noted below in the original ICF, dated 1/20/16.

FOR INFORMATION:

On September 29, 2014, the President signed into law the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act, Public Law (P.L.) 113-183, which amended titles IV-B and IV-E of the Social Security Act.

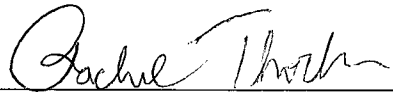
To implement provisions of the law that become effective September 29, 2015, the Foster Youth/Child Rights placard, which was adopted in 2008 by the foster youth in Hawaii based on HRS 587A-3, has been revised to include a signature line for the youth/child to acknowledge their understanding of their rights while in foster care and that the CWS social worker, the child's parent(s)(birth or adoptive, or legal guardian), and resource caregiver(s), if applicable, have explained it to them and answered their questions.

Additionally, the CWS Policies & Procedures Manual(Greens) have been updated to reflect this new requirement at **CWSB Procedures Manual Part III, Section 4, 4.16.1,F** .

FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION:

1. CWS Social Worker is to ensure that the foster youth/child signs the "Rights of Children and Youth in Foster Care" form.
2. CWS Social Worker should answer any questions from the child/youth about being in foster care and discuss what the child/youth can do while in foster care.
3. Form should be filed in Part VI of the case file.

Should you have further questions, please contact Lynne Kazama at 586-7212.


Rachel Thorburn, Acting PDA

Attachments: Revised-Rights of Children and Youth in Foster
c: SSDA, CWSBA, ACWSBA.SSOA, SDS, Heide Lilo-UH Maui College, HCWCQI,
Grace Reckers-UH Maui College, SHAKA Team, Faye Kimura-UH Law School

RIGHTS OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE

- ❖ You have a right to a safe home, free from physical, emotional, psychological and sexual abuse.
- ❖ You have a right to adequate food, shelter and clothing.
- ❖ You have a right to receive an education and attend the same school, even if you move to a new district, if it is possible.
- ❖ You have a right to participate in appropriate extracurricular activities.
- ❖ You have a right to medical, dental/orthodontic, vision and mental health services.
- ❖ You have a right to regular supervised or unsupervised visitation and other forms of contact with your family, including parents and siblings. There may be some exceptions, if contact is seen as not safe for you, as decided by your therapist, Guardian ad Litem (GAL), Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA), Social Worker or the Court.
- ❖ You have a right to exercise your own religious beliefs and can refuse to attend religious activities and services.
- ❖ You have a right to attend your court hearings and/or to speak with the Judge about your case.
- ❖ You have a right to ask for your own attorney.
- ❖ You have a right to regular in-person contact with your GAL, Social Worker and Probation Officer, if you have one.
- ❖ You have a right to receive Independent Living Program information and participate in the program (if age 12 or older).
- ❖ You have a right to be involved in developing your case plan and in planning for your future.
- ❖ You have a right to access certain personal records like your birth certificate and Social Security card.

I have received a copy of the "Rights of Children and Youth in Foster Care" and I had an opportunity to discuss it and ask questions with my social worker, my GAL/CASA, my parent(s) (birth or adoptive, or legal guardian), or my resource caregiver(s), if applicable.

CHILD/YOUTH NAME (PRINT)

CHILD/YOUTH SIGNATURE

DATE