

Talking Points for HB385 and SB500

Bill will:

Establish the R.E.A.C.H (Resources for Enrichment, Athletics, Culture, and Health) Program to provide a framework and funding for after-school programs in public middle and intermediate schools.

- We know that extracurricular activities are especially important for children affected by foster care. In fact, the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act (HR 4980) directs states to expand the opportunities for children/young people in foster care to participate in extracurricular activities.
- Every child who is in foster care, regardless of race, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, age, gender and religious affiliation, is entitled to participate in age-appropriate extracurricular, enrichment, and social activities. The R.E.A.C.H programs helps make this possible for youth in foster care by providing activities at the school. This can help the child's resource caregivers by making the activities convenient and affordable.
- Extracurricular activities allow youth to build skills, while developing talents, and healthy relationships with peers and supportive adults.
- New experiences and opportunities help young people discover who they are and learn important decision making skills when they are supported by nurturing resource caregivers.

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We help kids

