

<h1>ACF</h1> Administration for Children and Families	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES Administration for Children, Youth and Families	
	1. Log No: ACYF-PI-80-3	2. Issuance Date: 12/19/80
	3. Originating Office: Children's Bureau	
	4. Key Words: GOALS (FOSTER CARE) P.L. 96-272	

PROGRAM INSTRUCTION

TO: STATE ADMINISTRATORS OF STATE PUBLIC WELFARE AGENCIES, CHILD WELFARE SERVICES STATE GRANT PROGRAM

SUBJECT: Legislative Goals for Foster Care

LEGAL AND RELATED REFERENCES: P.L. 96-272, Section 471(a)(14)

INSTRUCTION: The Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act of 1980 (P.L. 96-272 Section 471(a)(14), requires the establishment of specific foster care goals by State law. States with biennial legislative sessions in odd numbered years will need to work with their 1981 Legislatives sessions to fulfill the requirement of the Act.

The law provides the following:

On or before October 1, 1982 the State shall enact a statute that provides specific goals for reducing the number of children receiving assistance under title IV-E who will have been in foster care more than 24 months.

- i. Goals shall be set for each fiscal year, beginning with the fiscal year that starts on October 1, 1983;
- ii. The goals shall be stated in absolute number of children in foster care or as a percentage of all children for whom assistance is provided during the year, and shall apply to children who at any time during the year will have been in foster care for a period in excess of 24 months.

Regional staff of the Children's Bureau will be available to provide consultation concerning the above requirement.

INQUIRIES TO: Regional Program Directors, ACYF

Effective Date: Immediately

John A. Calhoun
Commissioner
Administration for Children Youth and Families