

AGENDA

Committee to study Foster Care in Louisiana (HCR82)

March 16, 2006

COMMITTEE ROOM 6

1:30 P.M. UNTIL 4:30 P.M.

REVISED LOCATION AND TIME

Co-Chairperson: Representative Cheryl Gray
Co-Chairperson: Senator Diana Bajoie

Staff: Shanon Hollensworth
John Pourciau
Kisha Thomas

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. DISCUSSION

- Presentation by Beverly Breaux with the Louisiana School Counselors Association to examine educational issues relative to foster children and to foster children in the school system and to consider what needs to be done to improve educational services for foster children as well as foster parents. Additionally, this presentation will focus upon effective means of improving and coordinating communication between the school systems and DSS.
- Presentation by a representative from the Louisiana Department of Education relative to the educational needs, experiences, and expectations of children in care in relation to their peer groups who are not in care. Are there any differences in the department's view and, if so, what are they?
- Presentation by Betty Becker, OCS Program Manager within the Department of Social Services relative to services offered to youth aging out of care, including the Young Adult Program (YAP), independent living services, and the use of education and training vouchers.
- A representative from CASA will present a documentary film that follows several children in care as they age out, or transition out of the foster care system. Each young person, of course, has a very unique experience with this process. After viewing the documentary, several of our own young people who are either currently in the process of

transitioning out of care or who have already transitioned or aged out of the Louisiana foster care system, have very generously agreed to share with the committee their own experiences.

Bring your Kleenex!

III. OTHER BUSINESS

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

V. ADJOURNMENT

*******PLEASE DON'T FORGET THAT THE MEETING TIME
AND PLACE HAVE BEEN MOVED. (See top of agenda!) *******

Should you have any questions or concerns, I can be reached at 225-342-2437 or by email at hollenss@legis.state.la.us.