



STATE OF DELAWARE  
STATE COUNCIL FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES  
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MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 29, 2015

TO: Members of the Delaware State Senate

FROM: Ms. Daniese McMullin-Powell, Chairperson  
State Council for Persons with Disabilities

RE: H.B. 46 (Children in DSCY&F Custody Bill of Rights)

The State Council for Persons with Disabilities (SCPD) has reviewed H.B. 46 which would set forth the rights of abused, neglected and dependent youth in Department of Services for Children, Youth & their Families (DSCYF) Custody. As background, children determined dependent, neglected, or abused may be placed by the Family Court in the custody of the DSCYF. Such children are deemed "wards of the State". See Title 13 Del.C. §2501(c). The terms "dependent", "neglected" and "abused" are generally defined in Title 10 Del.C. §901. The legislation does not cover youth determined "delinquent".

SCPD endorses the proposed legislation. The rights guaranteed to defined children "cover the waterfront" and include basic provision of food, shelter and clothing; assistance in accessing medical, vision, and dental care; and visitation with relatives.

Thank you for your consideration and please contact SCPD if you have any questions regarding our position or observations on the proposed legislation.

cc: Members of the Delaware House of Representatives  
Mr. Brian Hartman, Esq.  
Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens  
Developmental Disabilities Council

HB 46 children in dscyf custody bill of rights 4-29-15