...Foster regulations (Continued from page 4)

Currently, all foster family homes must meet the same licensing standards, regardless of whether the foster family home is a kin or non-kin placement. This updated regulation allows a child welfare agency to adopt different licensing standards for all kin foster family homes to lessen delays in the kinship foster family licensing process. Kin can include individuals related to a child by blood, marriage, or adoption and other individuals who have an emotionally significant relationship with the child, such as godparents, and close family friends.

ACF's Children's Bureau child welfare encourages agencies to strongly consider developing standards for kin foster family homes that meet only the federal requirements and not additional standards the state, local, or tribal agency may require non-relative foster family homes to meet. These standards may include extending the age limits for kinship foster care providers to allow for older kin to foster a child or allowing kin children to share sleeping spaces.

"Across the United States, millions of children live with kin caregivers-aunts, uncles, grandparents, and other loved ones who stand in when parents are unable to safely care for their children. We know that children do better when they're with their families," said ACF Assistant Secretary January Contreras. "Placing children with kin allows them to maintain a sense of place and belonging and to maintain their cultural identity and connection to their own community. By allowing child welfare agencies to approve different licensing standards that recognize the needs and benefits of kin caregivers, more family members would be eligible to be licensed and receive financial resources to support the child's well-being."

A

Member

Encouraging and helping family and kin caregivers licensed become foster caregivers is beneficial to both the child and the foster care relatives. Research shows that children living with family experience higher stability and fewer behavioral problems compared to children living with non-relatives in foster care, in addition to maintaining familial and cultural bonds. ACF believes that child welfare agencies can develop different foster family home licensing or approval standards for kin in a manner that does not compromise child safety and well-being. This regulation also does not change the requirements concerning criminal background checks or other important safety provisions.

ACF continues to emphasize prevention and kinship services provided in the community. Providing necessary support and resources to families has a proven track record for keeping families together. ACF encourages child welfare agencies to pursue options that keep families together and maintain family connections, including kinship care. In keeping with its overall mission, ACF is committed to seeking equitable outcomes for the children, youth, and families it serves.

AW1-3 Prescribed by Secretary of State Sections 3.004, 3.006, 4.008, 83.010, 85.004, 85.007 Texas Election Code 9/2009
ORDER OF ELECTION FOR OTHER POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS
An election is hereby ordered to be held on Electing School Trustees (date)
Applications for a place on the ballot shall be filed by: <u>Friday</u> , February 17, 2023 (A deadline is required to be stated in the order for a special election.)
Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at
Coke County Clerks Office - Coke County Courthouse - Robert Lee, TX
(location) 8 5 Mon Thurs. between the hours of <u>8</u> a.m. and <u>1 Fri.</u> p.m. beginning on <u>Monday, April 24, 2023</u> (date) and ending on <u>Tuesday, May, 2, 2023</u> (date)
Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:

Coke County Courthouse - 13 E 7th

(Address)		

Robert Lee, TX 76945 (City)

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business or

Tuesday, April, 25, 2023		
(date) Additional early voting will be held as follows:	Date	Hours
Location		
Issued this the	18th day of January	, 20 23
Member	Signature of Presiding	Officer
	S mare of Fredring	

(Zip Code)

ORDEN DE ELECCION PARA OTRA SUBDIVISION POLITICA

Member

	presente se ordena que	se llevará a cabo una elelcción el <u>sabado, el 6 de mayo, 2023</u> con el propósi
de:	elegir fideicomisar	ious escolaras (fecha)
		la boleta serán presentadas por: <u>viernes, el 17 de febrero, 2023</u> elección especial se requiere una fecha límite)
La vot	ación adelantada en pe	rsona se llevará a cabo de lunes a viernes en
	Coke County Clerks (Office Coke County Courthouse - Robert Lee, TX
		(sitio)
entre la y termi	8 de la n inando el martes, el 2 (fec	
Las sol	licitudes para boletas q	ue se votarán en ausencia por correo deberán enviarse a:
	Monica Reyes, Coke	
	(Nombre del Secretari	o(a) de Votación Adelantada)
	Coke County Courth	iouse - 13 E 7th
	Coke County Courth (Dirección)	iouse - 13 E 7th

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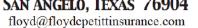
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La votación adelantada además se llevará a cabo de tal manera.

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Emitida este dia		de	Mer Nasham
Miembro	-		F ⁱ írma del Oficial que Preside Miembro
Miembro	-		Miembro
Miembro			Miembro
Nota de instrucción: Se deberá entregar una cop Condado/Administrador(a) de Elecciones y el/la le elección.	nia de esta d Registrado	orden a or(a) de	le elección al/a la Secretario(a) del e Votantes a más tardar 60 días antes del día