

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY - 2025 SESSION

CHAPTER 354

An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 63.2-905.6, relating to local department of social services; children in foster care; federal benefits; notice of eligibility.

[S 818]

Approved March 21, 2025

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 63.2-905.6 as follows:

§ 63.2-905.6. Notice of eligibility for certain federal benefits.

If the local department of social services (the local department) serves as representative payee for a child receiving benefits from the Social Security Administration or the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the local department shall provide written notice in person or by certified mail, return receipt requested, that it is acting as the child's representative payee within 30 days after receiving the first benefit payment on behalf of the child to:

- 1. The child, in an age-appropriate manner, if the child is 12 years of age or older;*
- 2. The child's parent, prior guardian, or prior custodian, or, if there is no legal parent or prior guardian or custodian, the child's next of kin;*
- 3. The guardian ad litem appointed pursuant to § 16.1-266, if applicable; and*
- 4. The counsel appointed for the child pursuant to § 16.1-266, if applicable.*