Additional Resources

The following are additional
resources that may help you
address your concerns:

State Ombudsman Office

[Name]

[Website]

[Phone Number]

[Email]

Fair Hearing Office

Under [federal law](https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/42/671), you have a right to an administrative hearing (or “fair hearing”) if you have a complaint or disagreement with the decision of the child welfare agency. This is an opportunity to have your voice heard before an administrative judge or hearing officer.

[Name]

[Website]

[Phone Number]

[Email]

Your Case,
Your Rights

You can learn more by
exploring [*Your Case, Your Rights*](https://naccchildlaw.org/your-case-your-rights/)*.* This resource was
created by lived experts to
help with self-advocacy.
Check out the [interactive
map](https://naccchildlaw.org/your-case-your-rights/), the [Companion Guide](https://naccchildlaw.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/NACC-Companion-Guide.pdf), and other related materials.

Introduction

Title IV-B is an important federal law that applies to all states, tribes, and territories. It includes [a new requirement](https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/9076/text) that child welfare agencies inform children and youth in the foster care system about your options for legal representation (these differ by state).

If you are age 14 or older, [federal law already requires](https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/42/675a) that child welfare agencies provide you a list of your rights. [If your state law has a Bill of Rights and requires notification for all ages, edit this sentence to reflect your state law.] This list must, at least, cover your rights with respect to education, health, visitation with family and siblings, court participation, the right to vital documents and records (like your State ID and birth certificate), and your right to stay safe and avoid exploitation. [If your state law has a Bill of Rights, edit the previous sentence to reflect that law.] The agency must document that you have received this list of rights by having you sign a document that you have received the list and had the list explained to you in an age-appropriate way.

[State] Law

[State] law says that youth are entitled to legal counsel when [describe/cite to statute].

If youth is assigned an attorney:

An attorney can help you understand what is happening in your case and can advocate for and with you to make sure your voice is heard. Your Attorney is:

[Name]

[Phone Number]

[Email]

If you cannot reach your attorney, you can contact:

[Insert name, phone number and email address of attorney supervisor or law office number. If the attorney is a solo practitioner, insert contact information for the Court Improvement Program or other entity which handles court appointments in your jurisdiction.] You may also contact your caseworker if you need additional assistance reaching your attorney.

If youth is not assigned an attorney:

[Insert name and contact information for [legal aids](https://www.lsc.gov/about-lsc/what-legal-aid/i-need-legal-help), [non-profits](https://www.americanbar.org/groups/litigation/about/committees/childrens-rights/directory/), or [law school clinics](https://www.americanbar.org/content/aba-cms-dotorg/en/groups/litigation/about/committees/childrens-rights/directory/legal-clinics/) in your jurisdiction that may be able to assist.]

**[Be sure to replace all highlighted and bracketed text (including the highlighting and brackets) in this document with the appropriate information for your state, then delete this sentence as well.]**

Independent Legal Representation Notification Form for [State] Youth