



# SIBLINGS' BILL OF RIGHTS

The "Siblings' Bill of Rights," was signed into law by Governor Murphy in January 2023. This bill was developed by the NJ DCF Youth Council, which recognized the importance of siblings and young people remaining involved in each others' lives when in foster care. The law provides that:



- Siblings should be placed together in resource homes & congregate (group) care setting, if safe and appropriate.



- If placement together is not possible, siblings should be placed in the closest proximity possible.



- Siblings should be actively involved in planning and attending birthdays, holidays, graduations, and celebrations, and other meaningful milestones.



- Siblings have access to a phone or computer for virtual visits.
- Phone calls and virtual visits will not be denied for behavioral consequences.
- Siblings' contact info provided at least annually.



- Children/Youth participate in their siblings' permanency plans and have their wishes documented in the case record and provided to the court.



- Children/Youth are promptly informed about a siblings' placement change or permanency plan goals.
- Siblings will know expectations for contact after adoption or transfer of permanent custody.



[Click here or scan the QR code below to read the full act establishing the NJ Siblings' Bill of Rights](#)

