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(Neb.)-State Lawmakers Weigh Helping Foster Kids Past 18



By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 01/31/2013 07:36 AM

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) - A Nebraska lawmaker wants to allow foster care youth to receive assistance from the state until they're 21.

Former foster care children who aged out of the system at 19 will ask Nebraska lawmakers on Thursday to extend the cutoff age to 21.

The Health and Human Services Committee will consider the bill by Lincoln Sen. Amanda McGill, who says it would keep foster care youth from being homeless.

The bill would help foster care youth transition into adulthood by offering assistance securing housing and Medicaid. McGill says foster care youth leaving the system need more assistance from the state because they're facing significant barriers while looking for employment and entering college.