

Item 5- Proposed Recommendation to HOPE Board

Recommendation for the HOPE Board: **Should deposits to a child's HOPE Account be made effective the date the child was eligible for participation after the HOPE Act was enacted?**

The HOPE Act became effective September 27, 2022. Children determined to be eligible shall receive initial and subsequent annual deposits calculated from the year they became eligible after the HOPE Act was effective, specifically the year during which they reached 18 months in foster care or were placed into foster care after age 16 and parent reunification services were terminated or the year of their parent or guardian's death caused by COVID-19 or as a consequence of long-term COVID.