

REFERENCE TITLE: **foster youth ombudsman**

State of Arizona  
Senate  
Forty-eighth Legislature  
First Regular Session  
2007

# **SB 1324**

Introduced by  
Senators Landrum Taylor, Pesquiera, Rios: Cheuvront, Miranda

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 41-1375, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION;  
RELATING TO THE OMBUDSMAN-CITIZEN'S AIDE.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2       Section 1. Section 41-1375, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
3 read:

4           41-1375. Ombudsman-citizens aide; term; compensation; foster  
5           youth ombudsman

6           A. The office of ombudsman-citizens aide is established.

7           B. The ombudsman-citizens aide who is appointed and approved under  
8 section 41-1373 shall serve full time and shall be a public officer subject  
9 to the conflict of interest provisions of title 38, chapter 3, article 8.

10          C. The term of office of the ombudsman-citizens aide is five years  
11 beginning on the date of appointment. Except as provided in subsection D of  
12 this section, the ombudsman-citizens aide shall not serve more than three  
13 full terms.

14          D. If the term of the ombudsman-citizens aide expires without the  
15 appointment of a successor, the incumbent ombudsman-citizens aide may  
16 continue in office until either:

17           1. A successor is appointed.

18           2. The ombudsman-citizens aide is removed from office pursuant to  
19 subsection E of this section.

20          E. The ombudsman-citizens aide may be removed from office at any time  
21 by a concurrent resolution approved by two-thirds of the membership of each  
22 house of the legislature, but only for neglect of duty, conviction of  
23 improperly divulging confidential information, misconduct or disability. The  
24 ombudsman-citizens aide may forfeit the office of ombudsman-citizens aide  
25 without legislative action pursuant to section 38-510. If the  
26 ombudsman-citizens aide is removed, resigns, dies or becomes incapacitated, a  
27 deputy ombudsman may serve as acting ombudsman-citizens aide until a new  
28 ombudsman-citizens aide is appointed.

29          F. The ombudsman-citizens aide is eligible to receive compensation as  
30 determined pursuant to section 38-611.

31           G. THE OMBUDSMAN-CITIZENS AIDE SHALL APPOINT A FOSTER YOUTH OMBUDSMAN  
32 WHO SHALL ASSIST FOSTER YOUTHS IN OBTAINING OR ACCESSING ANY AVAILABLE  
33 RESOURCES.

34          H. The ombudsman-citizens aide may incur, subject to  
35 appropriation, expenses that are necessary to carry out the duties under this  
36 ~~chapter~~ ARTICLE. The legislative council shall fund the expenses of the  
37 ombudsman-citizens aide from the monies appropriated to the council. The  
38 legislative council shall include the expenses as a line item in the general  
39 appropriations act.

40           Sec. 2. Appropriation; foster youth ombudsman; exemption

41          A. The sum of \$100,000 is appropriated from the state general fund in  
42 fiscal year 2007-2008 to the legislative council for the purpose of funding  
43 the foster youth ombudsman in the office of the ombudsman-citizens aide.

44          B. The appropriation made in subsection A of this section is exempt  
45 from the provisions of section 35-190, Arizona Revised Statutes, relating to  
46 lapsing of appropriations.