

Objectives/Goals of P.L. 96-272

- To prevent unnecessary separation of children from families
- To protect the autonomy of the family
- To shift support of Federal government away from foster care alone and towards placement prevention and reunification
- To promote the return of children to their families when feasible
- To encourage adoption when it is in the child's best interest
- To improve the quality of care and services
- To reduce the number of children in foster care
- To reduce the duration of a child's stay in foster care