



Senate Fiscal Agency
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BILL ANALYSIS



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Senate Bill 334 (Substitute S-2 as reported by the Committee of the Whole)
Sponsor: Senator Judy K. Emmons
Committee: Families, Seniors and Human Services

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Child Protection Law to do the following:

- Require the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to implement an online reporting system for the reporting of child abuse and neglect, subject to appropriation.
- Require a mandated reporter of suspected child abuse or neglect to make an immediate report to centralized intake by telephone or, if available, through the online reporting system (instead of making an oral report, as currently required).
- Specify that a report made through the online reporting system would be considered a written report, and no additional written report would be required, if the online report contained the information required in a written report.
- Require written reports to be submitted to centralized intake instead of a county department of human services.
- Replace the term "venereal disease" with "sexually transmitted infection", in a provision that the presence of a venereal disease in a child over one month old but less 12 years of age is reasonable cause to suspect that child abuse or neglect has occurred.

The bill would define "online reporting system" as the electronic system established by the DHHS for mandated reporters to report suspected child abuse or child neglect. "Centralized intake" would mean the DHHS's statewide centralized processing center for reports of suspected child abuse and neglect.

The bill would take effect 90 days after its enactment.

MCL 722.622 et al.

Legislative Analyst: Suzanne Lowe

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would require the Department of Health and Human Services to establish the online reporting system for suspected child abuse or neglect subject to appropriation. The Department has estimated the cost of the reporting system at \$2.6 million for start-up. Additionally, there could be ongoing maintenance costs.

Date Completed: 10-14-15

Fiscal Analyst: John Maxwell