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## REDUCE CHILD DEATHS, INJURIES

House Bills 4098, 4099, and 4101 Sponsor: Rep. Alma Stallworth Committee: Public Health

Complete to 2-4-93

## A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILLS 4098, 4099, AND 4101 AS INTRODUCED 2-2-93

House Bill 4098 would create in statute a panel to review childhood deaths, House Bill 4099 would establish a program to conduct periodic lead screening and follow-up for Medicaid-eligible children under six years old, and House Bill 4101 would require the Department of Public Health to provide a parenting pamphlet to new parents.

House Bill 4098 would add a new part to the Public Health Code (Part 25. Child Mortality Review Panel, MCL 333.2501 et al.) to establish in statute for three years a Child Mortality Review Panel that would conduct reviews of children's deaths and make annual recommendations to the Department of Public Health, the governor, and the legislature on how to avoid these deaths. The panel, which would be housed in and appointed by the Department of Public Health, would have to include:

- \* a forensic investigator employed by a law enforcement agency;
- \* a representative of a consumer advocacy organization;
- \* a pediatrician;
- \* an attorney familiar with child mortality issues;
- \* representatives from schools of social work and of public health;
- \* a representative from a local community program that dealt with child mortality issues; and
  - \* representatives from the Departments of Public Health and of Social Services.

House Bill 4099 would add a new part to the Public Health Code (Part 94. Childhood Lead Protection Program, MCL 333.9401 et al.) to require that, upon request, a local health department or an Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment ("EPSDT") Program provider conduct periodic lead screening and follow-up, free for Medicaid-eligible children less than six years old and for a fee covering the costs for other children. If a child had an elevated blood lead level, the health professional who performed the screening, the local health department, or the EPSDT provider would have to notify the child's parent or guardian that the child needed follow-up treatment (and the availability and sources of such treatment), and the Public Health Department would have to investigate possible sources of the lead poisoning and tell the parents how to eliminate these sources. The department also would have to test the child annually for lead poisoning until the child tested negative for three consecutive years.

The DPH also would be required to educate the public about the dangers of lead exposure and the need to screen young children for lead poisoning, as well as being responsible for helping local health departments and EPSDT providers set up and maintain lead screening programs and providing standard protocols for lead screening and for

identifying and cleaning up sources of lead poisoning. The director of the DPH also could appoint an advisory committee of physicians and other health professionals to help the department with the childhood lead protection program.

A person who violated the bill's provisions would be guilty of a misdemeanor.

House Bill 4101 would add a new section to the Public Health Code (MCL 333.2962) to require the Department of Public Health (DPH) to mail certain parenting information to all parents within thirty days of registering a birth certificate (including a new certificate of birth prepared upon notification of an adoption). Within 90 days of the bill taking effect, the DPH, in consultation with appropriate professional organizations and state departments and agencies, would develop and print the pamphlet in English, Spanish, and any other languages the department deemed appropriate. The department also would have to provide copies of the pamphlet to the Boards of Medicine and of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery, to physicians and local health departments free upon request, and at cost upon request from other people.