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ANIMAL CRUELTY AND ARSON: PSYCH EVALUATION

Senate Bill 754 (Substitute H-2)
Addendum to SFA analysis (2-29-00)

Sponsor: Sen. Bev Hammerstrom
Senate Committee: Families, Mental Health
and Human Services
House Committee: Family and Civil Law

ADDENDUM TO SENATE FISCAL AGENCY ANALYSIS OF SB 754 DATED 1-26-00:

HOUSE COMMITTEE ACTION:

The House Committee on Family and Civil Law adopted and reported a substitute H-2 of the bill. The substitute would expand the types of offenses that would trigger an evaluation to include arson violations, along with animal cruelty violations. In addition, the substitute would only require an evaluation where the child had been *found responsible* for an offense that, if committed by an adult, would be a violation of the arson or animal cruelty laws, rather than merely *alleged* to have committed such an offense. Finally, the substitute would permit, rather than require, a court to order treatment if treatment were deemed appropriate.

POSITIONS:

The Michigan Psychiatric Society supports the bill. (2-24-00)

The Michigan Psychological Association supports the bill's concept but feels that as written it will not accomplish its intent. (2-28-00)

The Department of Community Health supports the bill. (2-28-00)

The Michigan Association for Children with Emotional Disorders is neutral towards the bill, but feels that the bill is too narrow in its scope. (2-24-00)

Analyst: W. Flory

■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.