

Legislative Analysis



MEDICAL EVALUATION WITHOUT COURT ORDER WHEN CHILD EXPOSED TO "METH" PRODUCTION

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House Bill 5930

Sponsor: Rep. Tonya Schuitmaker

Committee: Family and Children Services

Complete to 4-18-06

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 5930 AS INTRODUCED 3-30-06

The bill would amend Section 6 of the Child Protection Law—which deals with instances of children suspected of being abused or neglected being seen at a hospital or by a physician—to address cases where a child has been exposed to or had contact with methamphetamine production.

The bill applies to cases when a written report evaluating the condition of a child suspected of being abused or neglected is made by a person other than a physician or when a physician's report is not complete. Currently, the act allows the Department of Human Services in such cases to request a court order for a medical evaluation of a child. The act requires the department to have a medical evaluation made without a court order if the child's health is seriously endangered and a court order cannot be obtained.

Under House Bill 5930, the department would also be required to have a medical evaluation of a child made without a court order if the child is displaying symptoms suspected to be the result of exposure to or contact with methamphetamine production. Such symptoms would include respiratory distress or breathing difficulty; red, watering, or burning eyes; chemical or fire burn; altered gait, staggering, or falling; or slurred speech.

MCL 722.626

FISCAL IMPACT:

The bill would have no fiscal impact.

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