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Senate Bill 1412 (as introduced 9-7-06)

Sponsor: Senator Alan Sanborn

Committee: Families and Human Services

Date Completed: 9-12-06

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Child Protection Law (CPL) to require the Department of Human Services (DHS) to report certain information on perpetrators of child abuse or neglect contained in the central registry to the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services.

The CPL requires the DHS to maintain a statewide, electronic central registry, which is used to keep a record of all reports filed with the Department in which relevant and accurate evidence of child abuse or neglect is found to exist.

The central registry is a confidential record available only to certain governmental agencies, law enforcement agencies, courts, child care organizations, and authorized individuals. The bill would add the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services to the people who have access to the registry, for the purposes specified in the bill.

The bill would require the DHS to provide to the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services information from the central registry that complies with the requirements of Section 633 of the Federal Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006. The information provided would have to be regarding central registry cases, and would be limited to the name of the perpetrator and the nature of the central registry case.

MCL 722.627

BACKGROUND

Section 633 of The Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to create a national registry of substantiated cases of child abuse or neglect. The registry must collect information reported to states, Indian tribes, and subdivisions of states on perpetrators of a substantiated case of child abuse or neglect.

If a state, Indian tribe, or political subdivision of a state has a similar electronic register of cases of child abuse or neglect, the information provided to the Secretary must be coextensive with the information in that register. The information provided must contain case-specific identifying information that is limited to the name of the perpetrator and the nature of the substantiated case of child abuse or neglect.

Legislative Analyst: Curtis Walker

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have an indeterminate fiscal impact on State government. The transmission of confidential data would require administrative costs for DHS data management and oversight, and information technology systems development. It is not known what the actual development and operations costs would be at this time.

Fiscal Analyst: Constance Cole

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This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan Senate staff for use by the Senate in its deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.