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## BILL ANALYSIS

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House Bill 5910 (as reported Substitute S-1)  
Sponsor: Representative Robert Dean  
House Committee: Families and Children's Services  
Senate Committee: Families and Human Services

**CONTENT**

The bill would amend the Child Protection Law to expand access to central registry clearance information for employment or volunteer purposes.

The central registry is a record of all reports filed with the Department of Human Services (DHS) in which relevant and accurate evidence of child abuse or neglect is found to exist. Central registry information is available only to certain entities and authorized individuals.

Upon written request, the DHS may give an individual documentation stating that he or she is not named in a central registry case as the perpetrator of child abuse or neglect. The request must include the individual's affirmation that he or she is employed by, volunteers at, is applying for employment in, or is seeking to volunteer in a child care center, child caring institution, or child placing agency. The individual may share the document with the child care center, child caring institution, or child placing agency, or someone authorized by it. The bill would delete these provisions.

The bill would permit the DHS, upon request, to give an individual, or whomever was appropriate, documentation that the individual was not named in a central registry case as the perpetrator of child abuse or neglect. An individual or the DHS could share the document with whomever was appropriate for the purpose of seeking employment or serving as a volunteer. Also, an employer, a person or agency to which an individual was applying for employment, or a volunteer agency, with appropriate authorization and identification from the individual, could request and receive central registry clearance information.

MCL 722.627j

Legislative Analyst: Suzanne Lowe

**FISCAL IMPACT**

The bill likely would increase the number of people requesting and receiving documentation on the status of individuals in the central registry of child abuse and neglect reports, which would likely increase administrative cost. The cost would be mitigated by the reduction in the documentation standards for registry inquiries, which would reduce workload for the DHS. These factors suggest that the bill would have little fiscal impact on State government.

Date Completed: 11-17-08

Fiscal Analyst: David Fosdick

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Analysis available @ <http://www.michiganlegislature.org>

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