

SENATE BILL No. 1617

November 6, 2008, Introduced by Senators KUIPERS, RICHARDVILLE, KAHN, BARCIA, CHERRY, HARDIMAN, JACOBS and WHITMER and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

A bill to create the children's advocacy center act; to create the children's advocacy center fund; to provide for distributions from the fund; to prescribe the powers and duties of the fund administrator; and to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state officials.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the
2 "children's advocacy center act".

3 Sec. 2. As used in this act:

4 (a) "Board" means the board of directors of the Michigan
5 chapter of the national children's alliance.

6 (b) "Children's advocacy center" means an entity accredited as
7 a child advocacy center by the national children's alliance or its
8 successor agency.

1 (c) "Fund" means the children's advocacy center fund created
2 in section 3.

3 Sec. 3. (1) The children's advocacy center fund is created
4 within the state treasury.

5 (2) The state treasurer may receive money or other assets from
6 any source for deposit into the fund. The state treasurer shall
7 direct the investment of the fund. The statute treasurer shall
8 credit to the fund interest and earnings from fund investments.

9 (3) Money in the fund at the close of the fiscal year shall
10 remain in the fund and shall not lapse to the general fund.

11 (4) The board of directors of the Michigan chapter of the
12 national children's alliance shall be the administrator of the fund
13 for auditing purposes.

14 Sec. 4. (1) Money shall not be expended from the fund for the
15 first year after the effective date of this act. Beginning 2 years
16 after the effective date of this act, the board may expend money
17 from the fund as appropriated. Money in the fund shall be expended
18 only as follows:

19 (a) To provide investigative, assessment, counseling, support,
20 and educational services to victims of child sexual abuse and their
21 families through children's advocacy centers.

22 (b) To pay the actual and reasonable operating costs of
23 children's advocacy centers.

24 (c) To provide training related to child sexual abuse for
25 personnel employed or otherwise retained by children's advocacy
26 centers.

27 (d) To improve the detection, investigation, treatment, and

1 prevention of child sexual abuse through the coordinated activities
2 of children's advocacy centers, medical care providers, crime
3 victim organizations, and local, state, and federal law enforcement
4 officials.

5 (e) To improve public awareness of child sexual abuse through
6 the use of children's advocacy centers.

7 (f) To pay the actual and reasonable costs of administering
8 the fund. Not more than 10% of distributions made in any fiscal
9 year shall be used to pay administrative costs under this
10 subdivision.

11 (2) The board shall require an annual audit of income and
12 expenditures under this section and shall provide an annual report
13 of incomes and expenditures to the secretary of the senate and the
14 clerk of the house of representatives by February 1 of each year.

15 Enacting section 1. This act takes effect January 1, 2009.