



Senate Fiscal Agency
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BILL ANALYSIS

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House Bill 4586 (Substitute H-1 as reported without amendment)

Sponsor: Representative Barb Vander Veen

House Committee: Family and Children Services

Senate Committee: Families and Human Services

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Child Protection Law to do the following:

- Require the Director of the Family Independence Agency (FIA) to release specified information in a child abuse or neglect case in which a child died.
- Allow a foster care review board to obtain confidential child protection records.
- Revise the definition of "specified information".

Under the Law, a written report, document, or photograph filed with the FIA, unless made public as specified information, is a confidential record available only to people and entities listed in the Law. The bill would add a foster care review board to the entities that may have access to confidential information.

The Law defines "specified information" as information in a central registry case record that relates specifically to referrals or reports of child abuse or neglect, except certain information specifically excluded. Under the bill, the term would mean information in a children's protective services (CPS) case record that related specifically to the FIA's actions in responding to a complaint of child abuse or neglect, subject to the existing exceptions. The bill also would exclude any information not related to the FIA's actions in responding to a report of child abuse or neglect.

MCL 722.622 et al.

Legislative Analyst: Julie Koval

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have no fiscal impact on State or local government.

Date Completed: 12-2-04

Fiscal Analyst: Constance Cole