

HOUSE BILL No. 5702

December 16, 2009, Introduced by Reps. Haase, Scripps, Slavens, Spade, Valentine, Liss, Bettie Scott, Robert Jones, Lemmons, Lisa Brown, Polidori, Constan, Haugh, Geiss, Dean and Cushingberry and referred to the Committee on Families and Children's Services.

A bill to create the office of the legislative child fatality examiner; and to prescribe the powers and duties of the legislative child fatality examiner, the legislative council, certain state departments and officers, and certain county and private agencies serving children.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the
2 "legislative child fatality review act".

3 Sec. 2. As used in this act:

4 (a) "Department" means the department of human services.

5 (b) "Examiner" means the legislative child fatality examiner
6 created in section 3.

7 Sec. 3. (1) The office of the legislative child fatality

1 examiner is created within the legislative council.

2 (2) At the request of both the senate majority leader and the
3 speaker of the house of representatives, the legislative council
4 administrator shall either contract for the services of a
5 legislative child fatality examiner to carry out the provisions of
6 this act or appoint a designee to serve as the legislative child
7 fatality examiner, who shall serve at the pleasure of the
8 legislative council.

9 (3) The principal purpose for the examiner is to identify
10 specific causes and systemic problems that contribute to the
11 mortality of children in foster care.

12 (4) The office of the legislative child fatality examiner
13 shall request and the examiner shall review the reports published
14 by the office of the children's ombudsman under section 10 of the
15 children's ombudsman's act, the state advisory committee created
16 under section 7b(4) of the child protection law, 1975 PA 238, MCL
17 722.627b, information from the public registry created in section
18 7b(10) of the child protection law, 1975 PA 238, MCL 722.627b, and
19 any other source of information on a child death that occurs while
20 a child is under a Michigan court's jurisdiction. The examiner
21 shall make a report upon completion of the review required under
22 this subsection to the standing committees of the legislature with
23 jurisdiction over matters pertaining to child protection.

24 Enacting section 1. This act does not take effect unless
25 Senate Bill No. _____ or House Bill No. 5703 (request no.
26 05193'09) of the 95th Legislature is enacted into law.