

Legislative Analysis



RELEASE OF REQUESTED RECORDS AND BIENNIAL TRAINING TO RECOGNIZE CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Phone: (517) 373-8080
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

House Bill 6076 as introduced
Sponsor: Rep. Laura Pohutsky

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

House Bill 6077 as introduced
Sponsor: Rep. Gregory Markkanen

Committee: Families, Children and Seniors
Complete to 5-27-22

SUMMARY:

House Bill 6076 would amend the Mental Health Code to require a mental health professional to release records and information pertinent to a child abuse and neglect investigation within 7 days after receiving the request in writing from a Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) caseworker or administrator directly involved in the investigation.

The code currently requires a mental health professional to release pertinent records and information within 14 days after receiving a request as described above.

MCL 330.1748a

House Bill 6077 would amend the Child Protection Law to provide that all individuals required to report child abuse or child neglect must complete, on a biennial basis, training developed by DHHS in recognizing child abuse and child neglect and in mandated reporting obligations.

MCL 722.629

The bills are tie-barred to each other, which means that neither bill would take effect unless both bills were enacted.

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 6076 would have a negligible fiscal impact on the state and local units of government, Community Mental Health Services Programs (CMHSPs) in particular. The bill would not increase the number of record requests and associated administrative workload, but would reduce the processing time from 14 days to 7 days.

House Bill 6077 would increase state expenditures to the Department of Health and Human Services and have no significant fiscal impact on local units of government. The fiscal impact of the bill would be dependent on the cost of updating existing training materials

along with any additional staff needed to facilitate trainings. According to DHHS, the cost of developing and implementing updated training materials would be approximately \$500,000. Trainings will be held virtually and would not require additional staffing.

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