CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER ACT

Act 544 of 2008

AN ACT 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.

History: 2008, Act 544, Eff. Apr. 1, 2009

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

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722.1041 Short title.

Sec. 1.

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

History: 2008, Act 544, Eff. Apr. 1, 2009

722.1042 Definitions.

Sec. 2.

As used in this act:

(a) "Board" means the domestic violence prevention and treatment board created in section 2 of 1978 PA 389, MCL 400.1502.

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

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

History: 2008, Act 544, Eff. Apr. 1, 2009

722.1043 Children's advocacy center fund; creation; deposit of money into fund; investment; money remaining in fund at close of fiscal year; department of human services as administrator.

Sec. 3.

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

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

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

(4) The department of human services shall be the administrator of the fund for auditing purposes.

History: 2008, Act 544, Eff. Apr. 1, 2009

722.1044 Expenditures; limitation; annual audit and report.

Sec. 4.

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

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

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

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

(d) To improve the detection, investigation, treatment, and prevention of child sexual abuse through the coordinated activities of children's advocacy centers, medical care providers, crime victim organizations, and local, state, and federal law enforcement officials.

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

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

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

History: 2008, Act 544, Eff. Apr. 1, 2009

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