

**REVENUE: No revenue impact**

**FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued**

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
<b>Vote:</b>	10 - 0 - 0
<b>Yeas:</b>	Garrett, Hicks, Nolan, Olson, Schaufler, Tomei, Wand, Whisnant, Barker, Krieger
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	0
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Aaron Knott, Counsel
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	4/19, 4/20

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Creates the violation of making a false report of child abuse.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Failure to report child abuse as a comparable offense
- Definition and application of a “knowing” mental state for the offense
- Typical cases encountered by law enforcement and child protection
- Ratio of reports of abuse which result in state action

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Modifies the applicable penalty.

**BACKGROUND:** House Bill 2183 A creates the violation of making a false report of child abuse, punishable as a Class A violation and carrying a maximum sentence of \$720. This violation is committed if a person makes a false report of child abuse to the Department of Human Services or a law enforcement agency, knowing that the report is false, or knowingly makes a false report of child abuse to a public or private official in order to encourage them to make a report of such to the Department of Human Services or a law enforcement agency.