

**HB 4151**

**Relating to vulnerable persons**

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HB 4151 sets consistent timelines for investigations of elder abuse cases by the Department of Human Services (DHS). The bill also directs DHS to adopt policies and guidelines for the development of an electronic database of abuse reports and to standardize investigation and reporting practices. A registry of persons working or seeking to work in elder care facilities will be set up by January 1, 2015.

The bill has a fiscal impact of \$268,045 total funds; the General Fund portion of just under \$150,000 will be covered by a General Fund appropriation in the session budget reconciliation bill. The remaining cost is covered by Federal Funds.

One new position would work with the standardized practices and protocols related to the abuse reporting and investigating components of the bill. Another position would be responsible for the registry work, including coordination with reporting facilities development of registry rules.

The amendment recommended by the Subcommittee clarifies that the registry work involves augmenting an existing system and not creating a new, separate system.

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends House Bill 4151 be amended and reported out do pass, as amended.