

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date:

Action:

Meeting Dates:

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Department of Human Services (DHS) to create advisory committee on matters relating to residential care facilities for children, as prescribed. Outlines advisory committee membership. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Fiscal impact
- Proposed amendment

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Sets a January 2, 2016 sunset date for the advisory committee. Specifies that the committee will meet no more than six times before the submission of the report to an interim committee of the legislature (no later than December 15, 2015). Focuses the work of the committee to evaluating the current process for making findings of abuse or neglect in residential care, and developing recommendations for ensuring the safety of children, youth or youth offenders in residential care.

BACKGROUND:

House Bill 2233 creates an advisory committee to Department of Human Services on matters relating to safety standards and reporting requirements for providers. The advisory committee is directed to discuss administrative and legislative solutions to address potential incidents of abuse or neglect in residential facilities that provide behavioral rehabilitation services. The advisory committee is also directed to ensure continued improvement and a higher safety standard in these facilities, and strengthen the relationship between practitioners and DHS, including the Office of Adult Abuse Prevention and Investigations, which provides regulation and oversight to these facilities.