

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**CARRIER:**

Senate Committee on Judiciary

REVENUE: No revenue impact**FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued****SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO:****Action:****Vote:****Yeas:****Nays:****Exc.:****Prepared By:** Channa Newell, Counsel**Meeting Dates:** 2/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows counties to establish multidisciplinary fatality review teams for fatalities involving abuse or neglect of elderly or vulnerable adults. Establishes statewide fatality review team within Department of Human Services. Requires local teams to make recommendations on improving communications between agencies and private organizations, to determine the number of such fatalities in the given jurisdiction, to identify ways to intervene through community response, and to provide accurate information on abuse and neglect of elders or vulnerable individuals. Requires statewide team to gather information from county teams, identify trends in abuse, and make recommendations and take actions on statewide issues, as well as conduct reviews of fatalities in jurisdictions in which there is no local team. Specifies membership of teams and duties and powers.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Proposed (-1) amendments move statewide fatality review team from Department of Human Services to Department of Justice. Updates definition of neglect and refines definition of person with a disability. Adds membership to local and statewide teams. Requires report to legislature no later than September 15 of each year with summary of fatalities that were reviewed, recommendations to prevent such fatalities, data collected from counties on the statistical occurrences of abuse or neglect, trends in abuse, and recommendations for rules and legislation.

BACKGROUND: Statewide and local multidisciplinary teams exist for examination of deaths resulting from child abuse and domestic violence.

House Bill 4013 allows for the formation of local fatality review teams to examine deaths resulting from abuse or neglect of elders or vulnerable adults. The measure also creates a statewide team to conduct reviews in jurisdictions without a local team and to aggregate statewide information.