

SB 994 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Gelser

Senate Committee On Human Services

Action Date: 03/26/19

Action: Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 5-0-0-0

Yeas: 5 - Fagan, Gelser, Heard, Knopp, Monnes Anderson

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 3/21, 3/26

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires person who receives child into protective custody to request criminal records check from Department of Human Services (DHS) on noncustodial parent and all adults in the home prior to releasing child to noncustodial parent. Requires DHS to comply with such request and adopt rules for same consistent with requirements of the Department of State Police for use of the Law Enforcement Data System.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of measure
- Process for removal and placement of children in protective custody
- Difference between noncustodial parents and relative caregivers

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces measure.

BACKGROUND:

A child may be taken into protective custody when the child's conditions or surroundings reasonably appear to jeopardize the child's welfare, when a court has ordered that the child be taken into protective custody, or when it reasonably appears that the child has run away from home. Unless a court has ordered that the child be taken into protective custody, or if the welfare of the child or others may be jeopardized, the child must be released to the custody of their parent or other responsible person.

Senate Bill 994 A requires the person who receives the child into protective custody to request criminal records check from the Department of Human Services (DHS) on the noncustodial parent and all adults in the home prior to releasing the child to the noncustodial parent. The measure also requires DHS to comply with such request and adopt rules consistent with the requirements of the Department of State Police for use of the Law Enforcement Data System.