



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

Washington Square Building, Suite 1025
Lansing, Michigan 48909
Phone. 517/373-6466

CHILD ABUSE: FIX OBSOLETE REFERENCES

House Bills 4324 & 4325 as introduced
First Analysis (3-22-89)

Sponsor: Rep. Bart Stupak
Committee: Judiciary

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Mich. State Law Library.

THE APPARENT PROBLEM:

Public Act 251 of 1988 added to the penal code a new section establishing four degrees of child abuse; previously existing sections prohibiting child cruelty and child torture were repealed. However, outdated references to those former sections of law continue to exist in portions of the Revised Judicature Act and the juvenile code that make special provision for children's testimony in abuse cases. Those references should be updated to refer to existing law.

THE CONTENT OF THE BILLS:

House Bills 4324 and 4325 would amend the Revised Judicature Act (MCL 600.2163a) and the juvenile code (MCL 712A.233b), respectively, to replace references to repealed sections of law with references to the replacement section created by Public Act 251 of 1988.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

The House Fiscal Agency says that the bills would have no fiscal implications. (3-21-89)

ARGUMENTS:

For:

The bills would replace obsolete statutory references with current ones.

POSITIONS:

The Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan has no objections to the bills. (3-21-89)

H.B. 4325 (3-22-89)