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SFA**BILL ANALYSIS**

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Senate Bill 604 (as introduced 6-11-97)

Sponsor: Senator Glenn D. Steil

Committee: Families, Mental Health and Human Services

Date Completed: 9-15-97

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Child Protection Law to specify that, if the Family Independence Agency (FIA) and a law enforcement agency investigated the same report of suspected child abuse or neglect and the law enforcement agency terminated its investigation and closed the case because of insufficient evidence to initiate a criminal prosecution, the FIA could not terminate its investigation or close its case based solely on the law enforcement agency's action.

In addition, the Law requires that the FIA refer a report of suspected child abuse or neglect to the prosecuting attorney, within 24 hours after receiving the report, if the report indicates criminal child abuse, involvement in child sexually abusive activity or material, or criminal sexual conduct. Involvement of law enforcement officials, however, does not relieve or prevent the FIA from proceeding with its investigation or treatment if there is reasonable cause to suspect that the child abuse or neglect was committed by a person responsible for the child's health or welfare. The bill specifies that the FIA could not terminate its investigation or close its case based solely on a law enforcement agency's decision to do so because of insufficient evidence to proceed with a criminal prosecution.

MCL 722.623 & 722.628

Legislative Analyst: P. Affholter

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have no fiscal impact on State or local government.

Fiscal Analyst: C. Cole

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