

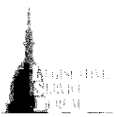
# HOUSE BILL NO. 4705

June 11, 2019, Introduced by Reps. Hall, Schroeder, Cynthia Johnson, Webber, Reilly, Steven Johnson, LaFave, Markkanen, LaGrand, Camilleri, Cambensy, Rendon, Liberati, Allor and Crawford and referred to the Committee on Families, Children, and Seniors.

A bill to amend 1975 PA 238, entitled  
"Child protection law,"  
by amending section 8 (MCL 722.628), as amended by 2016 PA 491.

## **THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1       Sec. 8. (1) Within 24 hours after receiving a report made  
2       under this act, the department shall refer the report to the  
3       prosecuting attorney and the local law enforcement agency if the  
4       report meets the requirements of subsection (3)(a), (b), or (c) or



1 section 3(6) or (9) or shall commence an investigation of the child  
2 suspected of being abused or neglected. ~~Within 24 hours after~~  
3 ~~receiving a report whether from the reporting person or from the~~  
4 ~~department under subsection (3)(a), (b), or (c) or section 3(6) or~~  
5 ~~(9), the local law enforcement agency shall refer the report to the~~  
6 ~~department if the report meets the requirements of section 3(7) or~~  
7 **An investigation has not commenced until the department has made**  
8 **contact that provides information on the well-being of each child**  
9 **in the household where a child is suspected of being abused or**  
10 **neglected. Within 24 hours after receiving a report from the**  
11 **reporting person, the local law enforcement agency shall refer the**  
12 **report to the department if the report meets the requirements of**  
13 **section 3(7). Within 24 hours after receiving a report from a**  
14 **reporting person or from the department under subsection (3)(a),**  
15 **(b), or (c) or section 3(6) or (9), the local law enforcement**  
16 **agency** shall commence an investigation of the child suspected of  
17 being abused or neglected or exposed to or who has had contact with  
18 methamphetamine production. If the child suspected of being abused  
19 or exposed to or who has had contact with methamphetamine  
20 production is not in the physical custody of the parent or legal  
21 guardian and informing the parent or legal guardian would not  
22 endanger the child's health or welfare, the local law enforcement  
23 agency or the department shall inform the child's parent or legal  
24 guardian of the investigation as soon as the local law enforcement  
25 agency or the department discovers the identity of the child's  
26 parent or legal guardian.

27 (2) In the course of its investigation, the department shall  
28 determine if the child is abused or neglected. The department shall  
29 cooperate with law enforcement officials, courts of competent



jurisdiction, and appropriate state agencies providing human services in relation to preventing, identifying, and treating child abuse and child neglect; shall provide, enlist, and coordinate the necessary services, directly or through the purchase of services from other agencies and professions; and shall take necessary action to prevent further abuses, to safeguard and enhance the child's welfare, and to preserve family life where possible. In the course of an investigation, at the time that a department investigator contacts an individual about whom a report has been made under this act or contacts an individual responsible for the health or welfare of a child about whom a report has been made under this act, the department investigator shall advise that individual of the department investigator's name, whom the department investigator represents, and the specific complaints or allegations made against the individual. The department shall ensure that its policies, procedures, and administrative rules ensure compliance with the provisions of this act.

(3) In conducting its investigation, the department shall seek the assistance of and cooperate with law enforcement officials within 24 hours after becoming aware that 1 or more of the following conditions exist:

(a) Child abuse or child neglect is the suspected cause of a child's death.

(b) The child is the victim of suspected sexual abuse or sexual exploitation.

(c) Child abuse or child neglect resulting in severe physical injury to the child. For purposes of this subdivision and section 17, "severe physical injury" means an injury to the child that requires medical treatment or hospitalization and that seriously



1 impairs the child's health or physical well-being.

2 (d) Law enforcement intervention is necessary for the  
3 protection of the child, a department employee, or another person  
4 involved in the investigation.

5 (e) The alleged perpetrator of the child's injury is not a  
6 person responsible for the child's health or welfare.

7 (f) The child has been exposed to or had contact with  
8 methamphetamine production.

9 (4) Law enforcement officials shall cooperate with the  
10 department in conducting investigations under subsections (1) and  
11 (3) and shall comply with sections 5 and 7. The department and law  
12 enforcement officials shall conduct investigations in compliance  
13 with the protocols adopted and implemented as required by  
14 subsection (6).

15 (5) Involvement of law enforcement officials under this  
16 section does not relieve or prevent the department from proceeding  
17 with its investigation or treatment if there is reasonable cause to  
18 suspect that the child abuse or child neglect was committed by a  
19 person responsible for the child's health or welfare.

20 (6) In each county, the prosecuting attorney and the  
21 department shall develop and establish procedures for involving law  
22 enforcement officials and children's advocacy centers, as  
23 appropriate, as provided in this section. In each county, the  
24 prosecuting attorney and the department shall adopt and implement  
25 standard child abuse and child neglect investigation and interview  
26 protocols using as a model the protocols developed by the  
27 governor's task force on children's justice as published in FIA  
28 Publication 794 (revised 8-98) and FIA Publication 779 (8-98), or  
29 an updated version of those publications.



1 (7) If there is reasonable cause to suspect that a child in  
2 the care of or under the control of a public or private agency,  
3 institution, or facility is an abused or neglected child, the  
4 agency, institution, or facility shall be investigated by an agency  
5 administratively independent of the agency, institution, or  
6 facility being investigated. If the investigation produces evidence  
7 of a violation of section 145c or sections 520b to 520g of the  
8 Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.145c and 750.520b to  
9 750.520g, the investigating agency shall transmit a copy of the  
10 results of the investigation to the prosecuting attorney of the  
11 county in which the agency, institution, or facility is located.

12 (8) A school or other institution shall cooperate with the  
13 department during an investigation of a report of child abuse or  
14 child neglect. Cooperation includes allowing access to the child  
15 without parental consent if access is determined by the department  
16 to be necessary to complete the investigation or to prevent child  
17 abuse or child neglect of the child. The department shall notify  
18 the person responsible for the child's health or welfare about the  
19 department's contact with the child at the time or as soon  
20 afterward as the person can be reached. The department may delay  
21 the notice if the notice would compromise the safety of the child  
22 or child's siblings or the integrity of the investigation, but only  
23 for the time 1 of those conditions exists.

24 (9) If the department has contact with a child in a school,  
25 all of the following apply:

26 (a) Before contact with the child, the department investigator  
27 shall review with the designated school staff person the  
28 department's responsibilities under this act and the investigation  
29 procedure.



1 (b) After contact with the child, the department investigator  
2 shall meet with the designated school staff person and the child  
3 about the response the department will take as a result of contact  
4 with the child. The department may also meet with the designated  
5 school staff person without the child present and share additional  
6 information the investigator determines may be shared subject to  
7 the confidentiality provisions of this act.

8 (c) Lack of cooperation by the school does not relieve or  
9 prevent the department from proceeding with its responsibilities  
10 under this act.

11 (10) A child shall not be subjected to a search at a school  
12 that requires the child to remove his or her clothing to expose his  
13 buttocks or genitalia or her breasts, buttocks, or genitalia unless  
14 the department has obtained an order from a court of competent  
15 jurisdiction permitting such a search. If the access occurs within  
16 a hospital, the investigation shall be conducted so as not to  
17 interfere with the medical treatment of the child or other  
18 patients.

19 (11) The department shall enter each report made under this  
20 act that is the subject of a field investigation into the CPSI  
21 system. The department shall maintain a report entered on the CPSI  
22 system as required by this subsection until the child about whom  
23 the investigation is made is 18 years old or until 10 years after  
24 the investigation is commenced, whichever is later, or, if the case  
25 is classified as a central registry case, until the department  
26 receives reliable information that the perpetrator of the child  
27 abuse or child neglect is dead. Unless made public as specified  
28 information released under section 7d, a report that is maintained  
29 on the CPSI system is confidential and is not subject to the



1 disclosure requirements of the freedom of information act, 1976 PA  
2 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

3 (12) After completing a field investigation and based on its  
4 results, the department shall determine in which single category,  
5 prescribed by section 8d, to classify the allegation of child abuse  
6 or child neglect.

7 (13) Except as provided in subsection (14), upon completion of  
8 the investigation by the local law enforcement agency or the  
9 department, the law enforcement agency or department may inform the  
10 person who made the report as to the disposition of the report.

11 (14) If the person who made the report is mandated to report  
12 under section 3, upon completion of the investigation by the  
13 department, the department shall inform the person in writing as to  
14 the disposition of the case and shall include in the information at  
15 least all of the following:

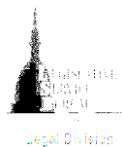
16 (a) What determination the department made under subsection  
17 (12) and the rationale for that decision.

18 (b) Whether legal action was commenced and, if so, the nature  
19 of that action.

20 (c) Notification that the information being conveyed is  
21 confidential.

22 (15) Information sent under subsection (14) shall not include  
23 personally identifying information for a person named in a report  
24 or record made under this act.

25 (16) Unless section 5 of chapter XII of the probate code of  
26 1939, 1939 PA 288, MCL 712.5, requires a physician to report to the  
27 department, the surrender of a newborn in compliance with chapter  
28 XII of the probate code of 1939, 1939 PA 288, MCL 712.1 to 712.20,  
29 is not reasonable cause to suspect child abuse or child neglect and



1 is not subject to the section 3 reporting requirement. This  
2 subsection does not apply to circumstances that arise on or after  
3 the date that chapter XII of the probate code of 1939, 1939 PA 288,  
4 MCL 712.1 to 712.20, is repealed. This subsection applies to a  
5 newborn whose birth is described in the born alive infant  
6 protection act, 2002 PA 687, MCL 333.1071 to 333.1073, and who is  
7 considered to be a newborn surrendered under the safe delivery of  
8 newborns law as provided in section 3 of chapter XII of the probate  
9 code of 1939, 1939 PA 288, MCL 712.3.

10 (17) All department employees involved in investigating child  
11 abuse or child neglect cases shall be trained in the legal duties  
12 to protect the state and federal constitutional and statutory  
13 rights of children and families from the initial contact of an  
14 investigation through the time services are provided.

15 (18) The department shall determine whether there is an open  
16 friend of the court case regarding a child who is suspected of  
17 being abused or neglected if a child protective services  
18 investigation of child abuse and child neglect allegations result  
19 in any of the following dispositions:

20 (a) A finding that a preponderance of evidence indicates that  
21 there has been child abuse or child neglect.

22 (b) Emergency removal of the child for child abuse or child  
23 neglect before the investigation is completed.

24 (c) The family court takes jurisdiction on a petition and a  
25 child is maintained in his or her own home under the supervision of  
26 the department.

27 (d) If 1 or more children residing in the home are removed and  
28 1 or more children remain in the home.

29 (e) Any other circumstances that the department determines are





1 applicable and related to child safety.

2 (19) If the department determines that there is an open friend  
3 of the court case and the provisions of subsection (18) apply, the  
4 department shall notify the office of the friend of the court in  
5 the county in which the friend of the court case is open that there  
6 is an investigation being conducted under this act regarding that  
7 child and shall also report to the local friend of the court office  
8 when there is a change in that child's placement.

9 (20) Child protective services may report to the local friend  
10 of the court office any situation in which a parent, more than 3  
11 times within 1 year or on 5 cumulative reports over several years,  
12 made unfounded reports to child protective services regarding  
13 alleged child abuse or child neglect of his or her child.

14 (21) If the department determines that there is an open friend  
15 of the court case, the department shall provide noncustodial  
16 parents of a child who is suspected of being abused or neglected  
17 with the form developed by the department that has information on  
18 how to change a custody or parenting time court order.

