

JAN 14 2003
HUMAN RESOURCES

HOUSE FILE 17
BY BODDICKER

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act revising requirements for the department of human
2 services' written report of a child abuse assessment.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. Section 232.71B, subsection 11, unnumbered
2 paragraph 1, Code 2003, is amended to read as follows:

3 ASSESSMENT REPORT -- ABUSE DETERMINED. ~~The department,~~
4 ~~upon~~ Upon completion of ~~the~~ an assessment in which it is
5 determined that the alleged abuse meets the definition of
6 child abuse, the department shall make a written report of the
7 assessment, in accordance with all of the following:

8 Sec. 2. Section 232.71B, Code 2003, is amended by adding
9 the following new subsection:

10 NEW SUBSECTION. 11A. ASSESSMENT REPORT -- ABUSE NOT
11 DETERMINED. Upon completion of an assessment in which it is
12 not determined that the alleged abuse meets the definition of
13 child abuse, the department shall make a written report of the
14 assessment in accordance with all of the following:

15 a. The written assessment shall include a description of
16 the child's condition, identification of the alleged injury or
17 risk to which the child was exposed, and the reason the
18 alleged injury or risk was not determined to meet the
19 definition of child abuse.

20 b. Identification of the person or persons alleged to be
21 responsible for the alleged child abuse.

22 c. The written assessment shall be completed within twenty
23 business days of the receipt of the report.

24 d. The department shall notify each subject of the child
25 abuse report, as identified in section 235A.15, subsection 2,
26 paragraph "a", of the results of the assessment, of the
27 subject's right, pursuant to section 235A.19, to correct the
28 report data or disposition data which refers to the subject,
29 and of the procedures to correct the data.

30 EXPLANATION

31 This bill revises requirements for the department of human
32 services' written report of a child abuse assessment.

33 The bill amends Code section 232.71B, which outlines the
34 duties of the department and others in performing an
35 assessment in response to a report of child abuse. Under

1 current law, the department is required to complete a
2 comprehensive written report on the assessment performed
3 regardless of whether or not it is determined that the alleged
4 abuse meets the definition of child abuse. The bill provides
5 that for a case in which there is not a determination made
6 that the alleged abuse meets the definition of child abuse,
7 less information is required to be documented in the written
8 report of the assessment.

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