

SB 804 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Human Services and Housing

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Meeting Dates: 4/24, 4/29

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Modifies requirement that Department of Human Services (DHS) notify law enforcement of report of suspected child abuse in county where report was received, to require notification in county where alleged abuse occurred, county where child resides, or county where reporter came into contact with child or alleged perpetrator. Requires law enforcement agencies to notify DHS of reports of suspected child abuse using the child abuse reporting hotline. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

When the Department of Human Services (DHS) or a law enforcement agency receive information about suspected child abuse, they are currently required to notify each other, in the county where the report was received. Senate Bill 804 A requires DHS to notify the law enforcement agency in the county where the abuse allegedly occurred, where the child resides, or where reporter came into contact with the child or alleged perpetrator, rather than in the county where the report was received. The measure also requires law enforcement agencies to notify DHS of reports of suspected child abuse using the child abuse reporting hotline.