

HB 2464 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**Carrier:** Sen. Gelser**Senate Committee On Human Services**

Action Date: 05/07/19
Action: Do pass.
Vote: 3-0-0-2
Yeas: 3 - Fagan, Gelser, Monnes Anderson
Abs: 2 - Heard, Knopp
Fiscal: No fiscal impact
Revenue: No revenue impact
Prepared By: Jamie Hinsz, LPRO Analyst
Meeting Dates: 5/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Expands purposes for which grants may be awarded by Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention Program, to include provision of training and technical assistance for county multidisciplinary teams and children's advocacy centers, and support for regional children's advocacy centers. Aligns provisions governing children's advocacy centers and services with national accreditation standards to include forensic examinations, coordination of care, and family supports. Authorizes corresponding rulemaking. Creates and modifies corresponding definitions, replacing references to "assessment" centers with "advocacy" centers throughout. Removes naturopathic physicians from list of professionals authorized to conduct medical child abuse assessments. Becomes operative January 1, 2020. Authorizes activity in advance of operative date necessary for administration. Takes effect 91st day following adjournment *sine die*.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of the measure

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention Program (CAMI) was established in the Department of Justice in 2005 by House Bill 2221, to coordinate multidisciplinary approaches to respond to allegations of child abuse by funding the establishment of county multidisciplinary teams and both community and regional child abuse assessment centers. Community and regional centers currently provide child abuse medical assessments supervised by licensed health care professionals, and regional centers offer additional services, including training, consultation, and assistance with difficult or complex cases.

House Bill 2464 aligns state laws governing child abuse investigations, assessment centers, and assessment services, with national accreditation standards, allowing for a more consistent and comprehensive response to allegations of child abuse, so that forensic interviews, coordination of care, and family supports are provided by community and regional children's advocacy centers, in addition to medical assessments. The measure also allows CAMI grants to be awarded not only to fund the establishment of multidisciplinary teams and children's advocacy centers, but to fund sufficient training and technical assistance for teams and centers at the county level, and sufficient coordination and support for advocacy centers at the regional level.