

BY: Finance Committee

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 348

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 3, after “of” insert “authorizing a certain local team to investigate certain information and records;”; in line 5, strike “convicted of a crime” and substitute “adjudicated as having committed a delinquent act;”; in the same line, after “fatality;” insert “requiring that a certain local team be immediately provided access to all information and records maintained by any State or local government agency that provided services to a certain child or family;”; in line 6, strike “convicted of a crime” and substitute “adjudicated as having committed a delinquent act;”; in line 7, after “meetings;” insert “prohibiting the disclosure of information regarding the involvement of any agency with certain individuals during certain public meetings;”; and in line 11, strike “5-707” and substitute “5-706, 5-707.”

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, after line 16, insert:

“5-706.

(a) The purpose of the local team is to prevent child deaths by:

(1) Promoting cooperation and coordination among agencies involved in investigations of child deaths or in providing services to surviving family members;

(2) Developing an understanding of the causes and incidence of child deaths in the county;

(3) Developing plans for and recommending changes within the agencies the members represent to prevent child deaths; and

(Over)

(4) Advising the State Team on changes to law, policy, or practice to prevent child deaths.

(b) To achieve its purpose, the local team shall:

(1) In consultation with the State Team, establish and implement a protocol for the local team;

(2) Set as its goal the investigation of child deaths in accordance with national standards;

(3) Meet at least quarterly to review the status of child fatality cases, recommend actions to improve coordination of services and investigations among member agencies, and recommend actions within the member agencies to prevent child deaths;

(4) Collect and maintain data as required by the State Team;

(5) Provide requested reports to the State Team, including discussion of individual cases, steps taken to improve coordination of services and investigations, steps taken to implement changes recommended by the local team within member agencies, and recommendations on needed changes to State and local law, policy, and practice to prevent child deaths; and

(6) In consultation with the State Team:

(i) Define “near fatality”; and

(ii) Develop procedures and protocols that local teams and the State Team may use to review cases of near fatality.

(C) IN ADDITION TO THE DUTIES SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, A LOCAL TEAM MAY INVESTIGATE THE INFORMATION AND RECORDS OF A CHILD ADJUDICATED AS HAVING COMMITTED A DELINQUENT ACT THAT CAUSED A DEATH OR NEAR FATALITY DESCRIBED IN § 5-707 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 2, in line 9, strike “CONVICTED OF A CRIME” and substitute “**ADJUDICATED AS HAVING COMMITTED A DELINQUENT ACT**”; in the same line, strike “THE” and substitute “**A**”; in line 10, strike “BEING REVIEWED BY THE LOCAL TEAM”; and in line 15, strike “the child or family” and substitute “**:**”

(I) A CHILD WHOSE DEATH IS BEING REVIEWED BY THE LOCAL TEAM;

(II) A CHILD ADJUDICATED AS HAVING COMMITTED A DELINQUENT ACT THAT CAUSED A DEATH OR NEAR FATALITY; OR

(III) THE FAMILY OF A CHILD DESCRIBED IN ITEM (I) OR (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH.

AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 3, in line 5, strike “CONVICTED OF A CRIME” and substitute “**ADJUDICATED AS HAVING COMMITTED A DELINQUENT ACT**”; in the same line, strike “THE” and substitute “**A**”; in line 6, strike “OF ANOTHER CHILD”; and strike in their entirety lines 7 and 8 and substitute:

“(2) DURING A PUBLIC MEETING, INFORMATION MAY NOT BE DISCLOSED REGARDING THE INVOLVEMENT OF ANY AGENCY WITH:

- (I) A DECEASED CHILD;
- (II) A FAMILY MEMBER, GUARDIAN, OR CARETAKER OF A DECEASED CHILD;
- (III) AN ALLEGED OR SUSPECTED PERPETRATOR OF ABUSE OR NEGLECT UPON A CHILD; OR
- (IV) A CHILD ADJUDICATED AS HAVING COMMITTED A DELINQUENT ACT THAT CAUSED A DEATH OR NEAR FATALITY.” .