

_____ moved to amend as follows:

Delete lines 301 through 979

1

After line 979, insert:

2

"Sec. 2151.421. (A) (1) (a) No person described in division 3
(A) (1) (b) of this section who is acting in an official or 4
professional capacity and knows, or has reasonable cause to 5
suspect based on facts that would cause a reasonable person in a 6
similar position to suspect, that a child under eighteen years 7
of age, or a person under twenty-one years of age with a 8
developmental disability or physical impairment, has suffered or 9
faces a threat of suffering any physical or mental wound, 10
injury, disability, or condition of a nature that reasonably 11
indicates abuse or neglect of the child shall fail to 12
immediately report that knowledge or reasonable cause to suspect 13
to the entity or persons specified in this division. Except as 14
otherwise provided in this division or section 5120.173 of the 15
Revised Code, the person making the report shall make it to the 16
public children services agency or a peace officer in the county 17
in which the child resides or in which the abuse or neglect is 18



occurring or has occurred. If the person making the report is a
peace officer, the officer shall make it to the public children
services agency in the county in which the child resides or in
which the abuse or neglect is occurring or has occurred. In the
circumstances described in section 5120.173 of the Revised Code,
the person making the report shall make it to the entity
specified in that section.

(b) Division (A) (1) (a) of this section applies to any
person who is an attorney; health care professional;
practitioner of a limited branch of medicine as specified in
section 4731.15 of the Revised Code; licensed school
psychologist; independent marriage and family therapist or
marriage and family therapist; coroner; administrator or
employee of a child care center; administrator or employee of a
residential camp, child day camp, or private, nonprofit
therapeutic wilderness camp; administrator or employee of a
certified child care agency or other public or private children
services agency; school teacher; school employee; school
authority; peace officer; humane society agent; dog warden,
deputy dog warden, or other person appointed to act as an animal
control officer for a municipal corporation or township in
accordance with state law, an ordinance, or a resolution;
person, other than a cleric, rendering spiritual treatment
through prayer in accordance with the tenets of a well-
recognized religion; employee of a county department of job and
family services who is a professional and who works with
children and families; employee of an entity that provides home
visiting services under the help me grow program established by
the department of children and youth pursuant to section 5180.21
of the Revised Code; superintendent or regional administrator
employed by the department of youth services; superintendent,

board member, or employee of a county board of developmental 50
disabilities; investigative agent contracted with by a county 51
board of developmental disabilities; employee of the department 52
of developmental disabilities; employee of a facility or home 53
that provides respite care in accordance with section 5123.171 54
of the Revised Code; employee of an entity that provides 55
homemaker services; employee of a qualified organization as 56
defined in section 2151.90 of the Revised Code; a host family as 57
defined in section 2151.90 of the Revised Code; foster 58
caregiver; a person performing the duties of an assessor 59
pursuant to Chapter 3107. or 5103. of the Revised Code; third 60
party employed by a public children services agency to assist in 61
providing child or family related services; court appointed 62
special advocate; or guardian ad litem. 63

(c) If two or more health care professionals, after 64
providing health care services to a child, determine or suspect 65
that the child has been or is being abused or neglected, the 66
health care professionals may designate one of the health care 67
professionals to report the abuse or neglect. A single report 68
made under this division shall meet the reporting requirements 69
of division (A)(1) of this section. 70

(2) Except as provided in division (A)(3) of this section, 71
an attorney, physician, or advanced practice registered nurse is 72
not required to make a report pursuant to division (A)(1) of 73
this section concerning any communication the attorney, 74
physician, or advanced practice registered nurse receives from a 75
client or patient in an attorney-client, physician-patient, or 76
advanced practice registered nurse-patient relationship, if, in 77
accordance with division (A) or (B) of section 2317.02 of the 78
Revised Code, the attorney, physician, or advanced practice 79
registered nurse could not testify with respect to that 80

communication in a civil or criminal proceeding. 81

(3) The client or patient in an attorney-client, 82
physician-patient, or advanced practice registered nurse-patient 83
relationship described in division (A) (2) of this section is 84
deemed to have waived any testimonial privilege under division 85
(A) or (B) of section 2317.02 of the Revised Code with respect 86
to any communication the attorney, physician, or advanced 87
practice registered nurse receives from the client or patient in 88
that relationship, and the attorney, physician, or advanced 89
practice registered nurse shall make a report pursuant to 90
division (A) (1) of this section with respect to that 91
communication, if all of the following apply: 92

(a) The client or patient, at the time of the 93
communication, is a child under eighteen years of age or is a 94
person under twenty-one years of age with a developmental 95
disability or physical impairment. 96

(b) The attorney, physician, or advanced practice 97
registered nurse knows, or has reasonable cause to suspect based 98
on facts that would cause a reasonable person in similar 99
position to suspect that the client or patient has suffered or 100
faces a threat of suffering any physical or mental wound, 101
injury, disability, or condition of a nature that reasonably 102
indicates abuse or neglect of the client or patient. 103

(c) The abuse or neglect does not arise out of the 104
client's or patient's attempt to have an abortion without the 105
notification of her parents, guardian, or custodian in 106
accordance with section 2151.85 of the Revised Code. 107

(4) (a) No cleric and no person, other than a volunteer, 108
designated by any church, religious society, or faith acting as 109

a leader, official, or delegate on behalf of the church, 110
religious society, or faith who is acting in an official or 111
professional capacity, who knows, or has reasonable cause to 112
believe based on facts that would cause a reasonable person in a 113
similar position to believe, that a child under eighteen years 114
of age, or a person under twenty-one years of age with a 115
developmental disability or physical impairment, has suffered or 116
faces a threat of suffering any physical or mental wound, 117
injury, disability, or condition of a nature that reasonably 118
indicates abuse or neglect of the child, and who knows, or has 119
reasonable cause to believe based on facts that would cause a 120
reasonable person in a similar position to believe, that another 121
cleric or another person, other than a volunteer, designated by 122
a church, religious society, or faith acting as a leader, 123
official, or delegate on behalf of the church, religious 124
society, or faith caused, or poses the threat of causing, the 125
wound, injury, disability, or condition that reasonably 126
indicates abuse or neglect shall fail to immediately report that 127
knowledge or reasonable cause to believe to the entity or 128
persons specified in this division. Except as provided in 129
section 5120.173 of the Revised Code, the person making the 130
report shall make it to the public children services agency or a 131
peace officer in the county in which the child resides or in 132
which the abuse or neglect is occurring or has occurred. In the 133
circumstances described in section 5120.173 of the Revised Code, 134
the person making the report shall make it to the entity 135
specified in that section. 136

(b) Except as provided in division (A) (4) (c) of this 137
section, a cleric is not required to make a report pursuant to 138
division (A) (4) (a) of this section concerning any communication 139
the cleric receives from a penitent in a cleric-penitent 140

relationship, if, in accordance with division (C) of section 141
2317.02 of the Revised Code, the cleric could not testify with 142
respect to that communication in a civil or criminal proceeding. 143

(c) The penitent in a cleric-penitent relationship 144
described in division (A) (4) (b) of this section is deemed to 145
have waived any testimonial privilege under division (C) of 146
section 2317.02 of the Revised Code with respect to any 147
communication the cleric receives from the penitent in that 148
cleric-penitent relationship, and the cleric shall make a report 149
pursuant to division (A) (4) (a) of this section with respect to 150
that communication, if all of the following apply: 151

(i) The penitent, at the time of the communication, is a 152
child under eighteen years of age or is a person under twenty- 153
one years of age with a developmental disability or physical 154
impairment. 155

(ii) The cleric knows, or has reasonable cause to believe 156
based on facts that would cause a reasonable person in a similar 157
position to believe, as a result of the communication or any 158
observations made during that communication, the penitent has 159
suffered or faces a threat of suffering any physical or mental 160
wound, injury, disability, or condition of a nature that 161
reasonably indicates abuse or neglect of the penitent. 162

(iii) The abuse or neglect does not arise out of the 163
penitent's attempt to have an abortion performed upon a child 164
under eighteen years of age or upon a person under twenty-one 165
years of age with a developmental disability or physical 166
impairment without the notification of her parents, guardian, or 167
custodian in accordance with section 2151.85 of the Revised 168
Code. 169

(d) Divisions (A) (4) (a) and (c) of this section do not 170
apply in a cleric-penitent relationship when the disclosure of 171
any communication the cleric receives from the penitent is in 172
violation of the sacred trust. 173

(e) As used in divisions (A) (1) and (4) of this section, 174
"cleric" and "sacred trust" have the same meanings as in section 175
2317.02 of the Revised Code. 176

(B) Anyone who knows, or has reasonable cause to suspect 177
based on facts that would cause a reasonable person in similar 178
circumstances to suspect, that a child under eighteen years of 179
age, or a person under twenty-one years of age with a 180
developmental disability or physical impairment, has suffered or 181
faces a threat of suffering any physical or mental wound, 182
injury, disability, or other condition of a nature that 183
reasonably indicates abuse or neglect of the child may report or 184
cause reports to be made of that knowledge or reasonable cause 185
to suspect to the entity or persons specified in this division. 186
Except as provided in section 5120.173 of the Revised Code, a 187
person making a report or causing a report to be made under this 188
division shall make it or cause it to be made to the public 189
children services agency or to a peace officer. In the 190
circumstances described in section 5120.173 of the Revised Code, 191
a person making a report or causing a report to be made under 192
this division shall make it or cause it to be made to the entity 193
specified in that section. 194

(C) Any report made pursuant to division (A) or (B) of 195
this section shall be made forthwith either by telephone, in 196
person, or electronically and shall be followed by a written 197
report, if requested by the receiving agency or officer. The 198
written report shall contain: 199

(1) The names and addresses of the child and the child's parents or the person or persons having custody of the child, if known;

(2) The child's age and the nature and extent of the child's injuries, abuse, or neglect that is known or reasonably suspected or believed, as applicable, to have occurred or of the threat of injury, abuse, or neglect that is known or reasonably suspected or believed, as applicable, to exist, including any evidence of previous injuries, abuse, or neglect;

(3) Any other information, including, but not limited to, results and reports of any medical examinations, tests, or procedures performed under division (D) of this section, that might be helpful in establishing the cause of the injury, abuse, or neglect that is known or reasonably suspected or believed, as applicable, to have occurred or of the threat of injury, abuse, or neglect that is known or reasonably suspected or believed, as applicable, to exist.

(D) (1) Any person, who is required by division (A) of this section to report child abuse or child neglect that is known or reasonably suspected or believed to have occurred, may take or cause to be taken color photographs of areas of trauma visible on a child and, if medically necessary for the purpose of diagnosing or treating injuries that are suspected to have occurred as a result of child abuse or child neglect, perform or cause to be performed radiological examinations and any other medical examinations of, and tests or procedures on, the child.

(2) The results and any available reports of examinations, tests, or procedures made under division (D) (1) of this section shall be included in a report made pursuant to division (A) of this section. Any additional reports of examinations, tests, or

procedures that become available shall be provided to the public 230
children services agency, upon request. 231

(3) If a health care professional provides health care 232
services in a hospital, children's advocacy center, or emergency 233
medical facility to a child about whom a report has been made 234
under division (A) of this section, the health care professional 235
may take any steps that are reasonably necessary for the release 236
or discharge of the child to an appropriate environment. Before 237
the child's release or discharge, the health care professional 238
may obtain information, or consider information obtained, from 239
other entities or individuals that have knowledge about the 240
child. Nothing in division (D) (3) of this section shall be 241
construed to alter the responsibilities of any person under 242
sections 2151.27 and 2151.31 of the Revised Code. 243

(4) A health care professional may conduct medical 244
examinations, tests, or procedures on the siblings of a child 245
about whom a report has been made under division (A) of this 246
section and on other children who reside in the same home as the 247
child, if the professional determines that the examinations, 248
tests, or procedures are medically necessary to diagnose or 249
treat the siblings or other children in order to determine 250
whether reports under division (A) of this section are warranted 251
with respect to such siblings or other children. The results of 252
the examinations, tests, or procedures on the siblings and other 253
children may be included in a report made pursuant to division 254
(A) of this section. 255

(5) Medical examinations, tests, or procedures conducted 256
under divisions (D) (1) and (4) of this section and decisions 257
regarding the release or discharge of a child under division (D) 258
(3) of this section do not constitute a law enforcement 259

investigation or activity. 260

(E) (1) When a peace officer receives a report made 261
pursuant to division (A) or (B) of this section, upon receipt of 262
the report, the peace officer who receives the report shall 263
refer the report to the appropriate public children services 264
agency, in accordance with requirements specified under division 265
(B) (6) of section 2151.4221 of the Revised Code, unless an 266
arrest is made at the time of the report that results in the 267
appropriate public children services agency being contacted 268
concerning the possible abuse or neglect of a child or the 269
possible threat of abuse or neglect of a child. 270

(2) When a public children services agency receives a 271
report pursuant to this division or division (A) or (B) of this 272
section, upon receipt of the report, the public children 273
services agency shall do all of the following: 274

(a) Comply with section 2151.422 of the Revised Code; 275

(b) If the county served by the agency is also served by a 276
children's advocacy center and the report alleges sexual abuse 277
of a child or another type of abuse of a child that is specified 278
in the memorandum of understanding that creates the center as 279
being within the center's jurisdiction, comply regarding the 280
report with the protocol and procedures for referrals and 281
investigations, with the coordinating activities, and with the 282
authority or responsibility for performing or providing 283
functions, activities, and services stipulated in the 284
interagency agreement entered into under section 2151.428 of the 285
Revised Code relative to that center; 286

(c) Unless an arrest is made at the time of the report 287
that results in the appropriate law enforcement agency being 288

contacted concerning the possible abuse or neglect of a child or 289
 the possible threat of abuse or neglect of a child, and in 290
 accordance with requirements specified under division (B) (6) of 291
 section 2151.4221 of the Revised Code, notify the appropriate 292
 law enforcement agency of the report, if the public children 293
 services agency received either of the following: 294

(i) A report of abuse of a child; 295

(ii) A report of neglect of a child that alleges a type of 296
 neglect identified by the department of children and youth in 297
 rules adopted under division (L) (2) of this section; 298

(d) If the child who is the subject of the report resides 299
in a county other than the county served by the agency that 300
receives the report or has a residence or legal settlement in 301
both the county served by the agency that receives the report 302
and another county, the agency that receives the report shall 303
immediately respond to and investigate the report and notify the 304
agency served by the other county in which the child resides not 305
later than twenty-four hours after receipt of the report. 306

(3) If the child who is the subject of the report resides 307
in a county other than the county served by the agency that 308
receives the report or has a residence or legal settlement in 309
both the county served by the agency that receives the report 310
and another county, the agencies shall jointly determine which 311
agency shall serve as the lead agency. The agencies shall make 312
this determination within one business day. 313

(4) (a) Not later than four calendar days after receipt of 314
the report, all of the following entities shall provide relevant 315
information to a public children services agency or peace 316
officer concerning a report of child abuse or neglect without a 317

<u>subpoena upon the request of a public children services agency</u>	318
<u>or peace officer or when disclosure is necessary to ensure a</u>	319
<u>child's safety:</u>	320
<u>(i) Another public children services agency;</u>	321
<u>(ii) Another peace officer or law enforcement agency;</u>	322
<u>(iii) A health care professional or health care facility;</u>	323
<u>(iv) Notwithstanding section 3319.321 of the Revised Code</u>	324
<u>and to the extent permissible under the federal "Family</u>	325
<u>Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974," 20 U.S.C. 1232g, a</u>	326
<u>school district.</u>	327
<u>(b) The disclosure of protected health information by a</u>	328
<u>covered entity pursuant to division (E) (4) (a) of this section is</u>	329
<u>deemed permissible under the HIPAA Privacy Rule and Chapter</u>	330
<u>3798. of the Revised Code, as each of those terms are defined in</u>	331
<u>section 3798.01 of the Revised Code.</u>	332
(F) No peace officer shall remove a child about whom a	333
report is made pursuant to this section from the child's	334
parents, stepparents, or guardian or any other persons having	335
custody of the child without consultation with the public	336
children services agency, unless, in the judgment of the	337
officer, and, if the report was made by a physician or advanced	338
practice registered nurse, the physician or nurse, immediate	339
removal is considered essential to protect the child from	340
further abuse or neglect. The agency that must be consulted	341
shall be the agency conducting the investigation of the report	342
as determined pursuant to section 2151.422 of the Revised Code.	343
(G) (1) Except as provided in section 2151.422 of the	344
Revised Code or in an interagency agreement entered into under	345

section 2151.428 of the Revised Code that applies to the 346
particular report, the public children services agency shall 347
investigate, within twenty-four hours, each report of child 348
abuse or child neglect that is known or reasonably suspected or 349
believed to have occurred and of a threat of child abuse or 350
child neglect that is known or reasonably suspected or believed 351
to exist that is referred to it under this section to determine 352
the circumstances surrounding the injuries, abuse, or neglect or 353
the threat of injury, abuse, or neglect, the cause of the 354
injuries, abuse, neglect, or threat, and the person or persons 355
responsible. The investigation shall be made in cooperation with 356
the law enforcement agency and in accordance with the memorandum 357
of understanding prepared under sections 2151.4220 to 2151.4234 358
of the Revised Code. A representative of the public children 359
services agency shall, at the time of initial contact with the 360
person subject to the investigation, inform the person of the 361
specific complaints or allegations made against the person. The 362
information shall be given in a manner that is consistent with 363
division (I)(1) of this section and protects the rights of the 364
person making the report under this section. 365

A failure to make the investigation in accordance with the 366
memorandum is not grounds for, and shall not result in, the 367
dismissal of any charges or complaint arising from the report or 368
the suppression of any evidence obtained as a result of the 369
report and does not give, and shall not be construed as giving, 370
any rights or any grounds for appeal or post-conviction relief 371
to any person. The public children services agency shall report 372
each case to the uniform statewide automated child welfare 373
information system that the department of children and youth 374
shall maintain in accordance with section 5180.40 of the Revised 375
Code. The public children services agency shall submit a report 376

of its investigation, in writing, to the law enforcement agency. 377

(2) If the child who is the subject of a report resides in 378
a county other than the county served by the agency that 379
receives the report or has a residence or legal settlement in 380
both the county served by the agency that receives the report 381
and another county, the agencies shall jointly investigate the 382
report until the agencies jointly determine which agency shall 383
serve as the lead agency in accordance with division (E) (3) of 384
this section. 385

(3) The public children services agency shall make any 386
recommendations to the county prosecuting attorney or city 387
director of law that it considers necessary to protect any 388
children that are brought to its attention. 389

(H) (1) (a) Except as provided in divisions (H) (1) (b) and 390
(I) (3) of this section, any person, health care professional, 391
hospital, institution, school, health department, or agency 392
shall be immune from any civil or criminal liability for injury, 393
death, or loss to person or property that otherwise might be 394
incurred or imposed as a result of any of the following: 395

(i) Participating in the making of reports pursuant to 396
division (A) of this section or in the making of reports in good 397
faith, pursuant to division (B) of this section; 398

(ii) Participating in medical examinations, tests, or 399
procedures under division (D) of this section; 400

(iii) Providing information used in a report made pursuant 401
to division (A) of this section or providing information in good 402
faith used in a report made pursuant to division (B) of this 403
section; 404

(iv) Participating in a judicial proceeding resulting from 405
a report made pursuant to division (A) of this section or 406
participating in good faith in a proceeding resulting from a 407
report made pursuant to division (B) of this section. 408

(b) Immunity under division (H) (1) (a) (ii) of this section 409
shall not apply when a health care provider has deviated from 410
the standard of care applicable to the provider's profession. 411

(c) Notwithstanding section 4731.22 of the Revised Code, 412
the physician-patient privilege shall not be a ground for 413
excluding evidence regarding a child's injuries, abuse, or 414
neglect, or the cause of the injuries, abuse, or neglect in any 415
judicial proceeding resulting from a report submitted pursuant 416
to this section. 417

(2) In any civil or criminal action or proceeding in which 418
it is alleged and proved that participation in the making of a 419
report under this section was not in good faith or participation 420
in a judicial proceeding resulting from a report made under this 421
section was not in good faith, the court shall award the 422
prevailing party reasonable attorney's fees and costs and, if a 423
civil action or proceeding is voluntarily dismissed, may award 424
reasonable attorney's fees and costs to the party against whom 425
the civil action or proceeding is brought. 426

(I) (1) Except as provided in divisions (I) (4) and (N) of 427
this section and sections 2151.423 and 2151.4210 of the Revised 428
Code, a report made under this section is confidential. The 429
information provided in a report made pursuant to this section 430
and the name of the person who made the report shall not be 431
released for use, and shall not be used, as evidence in any 432
civil action or proceeding brought against the person who made 433
the report. Nothing in this division shall preclude the use of 434

reports of other incidents of known or suspected abuse or 435
neglect in a civil action or proceeding brought pursuant to 436
division (M) of this section against a person who is alleged to 437
have violated division (A)(1) of this section, provided that any 438
information in a report that would identify the child who is the 439
subject of the report or the maker of the report, if the maker 440
of the report is not the defendant or an agent or employee of 441
the defendant, has been redacted. In a criminal proceeding, the 442
report is admissible in evidence in accordance with the Rules of 443
Evidence and is subject to discovery in accordance with the 444
Rules of Criminal Procedure. 445

(2) (a) Except as provided in division (I)(2)(b) of this 446
section, no person shall permit or encourage the unauthorized 447
dissemination of the contents of any report made under this 448
section. 449

(b) A health care professional that obtains the same 450
information contained in a report made under this section from a 451
source other than the report may disseminate the information, if 452
its dissemination is otherwise permitted by law. 453

(3) A person who knowingly makes or causes another person 454
to make a false report under division (B) of this section that 455
alleges that any person has committed an act or omission that 456
resulted in a child being an abused child or a neglected child 457
is guilty of a violation of section 2921.14 of the Revised Code. 458

(4) If a report is made pursuant to division (A) or (B) of 459
this section and the child who is the subject of the report dies 460
for any reason at any time after the report is made, but before 461
the child attains eighteen years of age, the public children 462
services agency or peace officer to which the report was made or 463
referred, on the request of the child fatality review board, the 464

suicide fatality review committee, or the director of health 465
pursuant to guidelines established under section 3701.70 of the 466
Revised Code, shall submit a summary sheet of information 467
providing a summary of the report to the review board or review 468
committee of the county in which the deceased child resided at 469
the time of death or to the director. On the request of the 470
review board, review committee, or director, the agency or peace 471
officer may, at its discretion, make the report available to the 472
review board, review committee, or director. If the county 473
served by the public children services agency is also served by 474
a children's advocacy center and the report of alleged sexual 475
abuse of a child or another type of abuse of a child is 476
specified in the memorandum of understanding that creates the 477
center as being within the center's jurisdiction, the agency or 478
center shall perform the duties and functions specified in this 479
division in accordance with the interagency agreement entered 480
into under section 2151.428 of the Revised Code relative to that 481
advocacy center. 482

(5) Not later than five business days after the 483
determination of a disposition, a public children services 484
agency shall advise a person alleged to have inflicted abuse or 485
neglect on a child who is the subject of a report made pursuant 486
to this section, including a report alleging sexual abuse of a 487
child or another type of abuse of a child referred to a 488
children's advocacy center pursuant to an interagency agreement 489
entered into under section 2151.428 of the Revised Code, in 490
writing of the disposition of the investigation. The agency 491
shall not provide to the person any information that identifies 492
the person who made the report, statements of witnesses, or 493
police or other investigative reports. The written notice of 494
disposition shall be made in a form designated by the department 495

of children and youth and shall inform the person of the right 496
to appeal the disposition. 497

(J) Any report that is required by this section, other 498
than a report that is made to the state highway patrol as 499
described in section 5120.173 of the Revised Code, shall result 500
in protective services and emergency supportive services being 501
made available by the public children services agency on behalf 502
of the children about whom the report is made. The agency 503
required to provide the services shall be the agency conducting 504
the investigation of the report pursuant to section 2151.422 of 505
the Revised Code. If a family is determined to benefit from 506
prevention services, the agency also may make efforts to prevent 507
neglect or abuse, to enhance a child's welfare, and to preserve 508
the family unit intact by referring a report for assessment and 509
provision of services to an agency providing prevention 510
services, if appropriate prevention services are available from 511
a local provider or other reasonable source. 512

(K) (1) Except as provided in division (K) (4) or (5) of 513
this section, a person who is required to make a report under 514
division (A) of this section may make a reasonable number of 515
requests of the public children services agency that receives or 516
is referred the report, or of the children's advocacy center 517
that is referred the report if the report is referred to a 518
children's advocacy center pursuant to an interagency agreement 519
entered into under section 2151.428 of the Revised Code, to be 520
provided with the following information: 521

(a) Whether the agency or center has initiated an 522
investigation of the report; 523

(b) Whether the agency or center is continuing to 524
investigate the report; 525

(c) Whether the agency or center is otherwise involved	526
with the child who is the subject of the report;	527
(d) The general status of the health and safety of the	528
child who is the subject of the report;	529
(e) Whether the report has resulted in the filing of a	530
complaint in juvenile court or of criminal charges in another	531
court.	532
(2) (a) A person may request the information specified in	533
division (K) (1) of this section only if, at the time the report	534
is made, the person's name, address, and telephone number are	535
provided to the person who receives the report.	536
(b) When a peace officer or employee of a public children	537
services agency receives a report pursuant to division (A) or	538
(B) of this section the recipient of the report shall inform the	539
person of the right to request the information described in	540
division (K) (1) of this section. The recipient of the report	541
shall include in the initial child abuse or child neglect report	542
that the person making the report was so informed and, if	543
provided at the time of the making of the report, shall include	544
the person's name, address, and telephone number in the report.	545
(c) If the person making the report provides the person's	546
name and contact information on making the report, the public	547
children services agency that received or was referred the	548
report shall send a written notice via United States mail or	549
electronic mail, in accordance with the person's preference, to	550
the person not later than seven calendar days after receipt of	551
the report. The notice shall provide the status of the agency's	552
investigation into the report made, who the person may contact	553
at the agency for further information, and a description of the	554

person's rights under division (K) (1) of this section. 555

(d) Each request is subject to verification of the 556
identity of the person making the report. If that person's 557
identity is verified, the agency shall provide the person with 558
the information described in division (K) (1) of this section a 559
reasonable number of times, except that the agency shall not 560
disclose any confidential information regarding the child who is 561
the subject of the report other than the information described 562
in those divisions. 563

(3) A request made pursuant to division (K) (1) of this 564
section is not a substitute for any report required to be made 565
pursuant to division (A) of this section. 566

(4) If an agency other than the agency that received or 567
was referred the report is conducting the investigation of the 568
report pursuant to section 2151.422 of the Revised Code, the 569
agency conducting the investigation shall comply with the 570
requirements of division (K) of this section. 571

(5) A health care professional who made a report under 572
division (A) of this section, or on whose behalf such a report 573
was made as provided in division (A) (1) (c) of this section, may 574
authorize a person to obtain the information described in 575
division (K) (1) of this section if the person requesting the 576
information is associated with or acting on behalf of the health 577
care professional who provided health care services to the child 578
about whom the report was made. 579

(6) If the person making the report provides the person's 580
name and contact information on making the report, the public 581
children services agency that received or was referred the 582
report shall send a written notice via United States mail or 583

electronic mail, in accordance with the person's preference, to 584
the person not later than seven calendar days after the agency 585
closes the investigation into the case reported by the person. 586
The notice shall notify the person that the agency has closed 587
the investigation. 588

(L) (1) The director of children and youth shall adopt 589
rules in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to 590
implement this section. The department of children and youth may 591
enter into a plan of cooperation with any other governmental 592
entity to aid in ensuring that children are protected from abuse 593
and neglect. The department shall make recommendations to the 594
attorney general that the department determines are necessary to 595
protect children from child abuse and child neglect. 596

(2) The director of children and youth shall adopt rules 597
in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to identify 598
the types of neglect of a child that a public children services 599
agency shall be required to notify law enforcement of pursuant 600
to division (E) (2) (c) (ii) of this section. 601

(M) Whoever violates division (A) of this section is 602
liable for compensatory and exemplary damages to the child who 603
would have been the subject of the report that was not made. A 604
person who brings a civil action or proceeding pursuant to this 605
division against a person who is alleged to have violated 606
division (A) (1) of this section may use in the action or 607
proceeding reports of other incidents of known or suspected 608
abuse or neglect, provided that any information in a report that 609
would identify the child who is the subject of the report or the 610
maker of the report, if the maker is not the defendant or an 611
agent or employee of the defendant, has been redacted. 612

(N) (1) As used in this division: 613

(a) "Out-of-home care" includes a nonchartered nonpublic school if the alleged child abuse or child neglect, or alleged threat of child abuse or child neglect, described in a report received by a public children services agency allegedly occurred in or involved the nonchartered nonpublic school and the alleged perpetrator named in the report holds a certificate, permit, or license issued by the state board of education under section 3301.071 or Chapter 3319. of the Revised Code.

(b) "Administrator, director, or other chief administrative officer" means the superintendent of the school district if the out-of-home care entity subject to a report made pursuant to this section is a school operated by the district.

(2) No later than the end of the day following the day on which a public children services agency receives a report of alleged child abuse or child neglect, or a report of an alleged threat of child abuse or child neglect, that allegedly occurred in or involved an out-of-home care entity, the agency shall provide written notice of the allegations contained in and the person named as the alleged perpetrator in the report to the administrator, director, or other chief administrative officer of the out-of-home care entity that is the subject of the report unless the administrator, director, or other chief administrative officer is named as an alleged perpetrator in the report. If the administrator, director, or other chief administrative officer of an out-of-home care entity is named as an alleged perpetrator in a report of alleged child abuse or child neglect, or a report of an alleged threat of child abuse or child neglect, that allegedly occurred in or involved the out-of-home care entity, the agency shall provide the written notice to the owner or governing board of the out-of-home care entity that is the subject of the report. The agency shall not

provide witness statements or police or other investigative reports. 645
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(3) No later than three days after the day on which a public children services agency that conducted the investigation as determined pursuant to section 2151.422 of the Revised Code makes a disposition of an investigation involving a report of alleged child abuse or child neglect, or a report of an alleged threat of child abuse or child neglect, that allegedly occurred in or involved an out-of-home care entity, the agency shall send written notice of the disposition of the investigation to the administrator, director, or other chief administrative officer and the owner or governing board of the out-of-home care entity. The agency shall not provide witness statements or police or other investigative reports. 647
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(0) As used in this section: 659

(1) "Children's advocacy center" and "sexual abuse of a child" have the same meanings as in section 2151.425 of the Revised Code. 660
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(2) "Health care professional" means an individual who provides health-related services. "Health care professional" includes all of the following: a physician, including a hospital intern or resident; a dentist; a podiatrist; a registered nurse, including such a nurse who is an advanced practice registered nurse; a licensed practical nurse; a home care nurse; a licensed psychologist; a speech-language pathologist; an audiologist; a person engaged in social work or the practice of professional counseling; and an employee of a home health agency. "Health care professional" does not include a practitioner of a limited branch of medicine as specified in section 4731.15 of the Revised Code, licensed school psychologist, independent marriage 663
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and family therapist or marriage and family therapist, or 675
coroner. 676

(3) "Investigation" means the public children services 677
agency's response to an accepted report of child abuse or 678
neglect through either an alternative response or a traditional 679
response. 680

(4) "Peace officer" means a sheriff, deputy sheriff, 681
constable, police officer of a township or joint police 682
district, marshal, deputy marshal, municipal police officer, or 683
a state highway patrol trooper." 684

Delete lines 1055 through 1085 685

After line 1085, insert: 686

"Sec. 2151.467. ~~(A)~~ (A) (1) A public children services 687
agency or private child placing agency with custody of a child 688
who is under the care and supervision of a residential facility 689
shall conduct ~~a monthly in-person visit~~ visits to the 690
residential facility to determine the well-being of the child as 691
follows: 692

(a) One face-to-face visit with the child during the first 693
week of placement, not including the first day of placement; 694

(b) One face-to-face visit with the child twice monthly, 695
not within the same week; 696

(c) One visit with the child via videoconferencing or any 697
similar form of technology a minimum of once a week during the 698
weeks when a face-to-face visit is not required under division 699
(A) (1) (b) of this section, except the agency shall arrange a 700
visit between the child and a service provider involved in the 701
child's case plan via telephone, videoconferencing, or any 702

similar form of technology when a caseworker is unable to visit 703
under this division. 704

(2) 705

A caseworker employed by the agency that has full 706
responsibility for case planning and case management of the 707
child's case shall conduct at least one of the monthly visits 708
required under division (A) (1) (b) of this section. Any other 709
visits may be conducted by a caseworker employed by another 710
agency contracted by the agency that has full responsibility for 711
case planning and case management of the child's case to provide 712
services for the case. 713

(3) The agency shall maintain documentation of each visit 714
and report each visit as well as concerns about the child to the 715
department of children and youth in accordance with rules 716
adopted under division ~~(B)~~ (C) of this section. 717

~~(B)~~ (B) (1) The department shall monitor whether an agency 718
is in compliance with division (A) of this section. With regard 719
to each residential facility in this state, the department shall 720
submit on a quarterly basis a compliance report to the county 721
commissioners of the county in which the residential facility is 722
located. 723

(2) If an agency is in compliance with division (A) of 724
this section, the county in which the agency is located shall 725
receive access to funding that is appropriated from the general 726
revenue fund to incentivize best practices. If an agency is not 727
in compliance with division (A) of this section, the county in 728
which the agency is located shall not receive access to such 729
funding. 730

(C) ~~Not later than ninety days after the effective date of~~ 731

~~this section, the~~ The director of children and youth shall adopt 732
rules in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to 733
establish both of the following: 734

(1) Criteria for determining whether an agency shall 735
report a concern to the department; 736

(2) Criteria for determining whether an agency shall 737
conduct a mandatory review of the placement of the child 738
pursuant to section 2151.468 of the Revised Code." 739

Delete lines 1086 through 1112 740

After line 1112, insert: 741

"Sec. 2151.468. (A) A public children services agency or 742
private child placing agency with custody of a child who is 743
under the care and supervision of a residential facility shall 744
review the placement of the child if any of the following occur: 745

(1) The child presents to an emergency department or is 746
admitted to a hospital for an injury or mental health crisis. 747

(2) A police report is generated with regard to the child. 748

(3) During a ~~monthly~~ visit, the agency has determined that 749
a review is necessary pursuant to rules adopted under section 750
2151.467 of the Revised Code. 751

(B) A review of the placement of a child under division 752
(A) of this section shall include a determination of whether the 753
residential facility is an appropriate setting and is providing 754
a satisfactory level of care for the child. 755

(C) The public children services agency or private child 756
placing agency shall notify the operator of the residential 757
facility of the results of a review under division (A) of this 758

section and any action that the agency plans to take with regard 759
to the child as a result of the review. 760

~~(D) Not later than ninety days after the effective date of~~ 761
~~this section, the~~The department of children and youth shall 762
adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code 763
to establish guidelines for reviewing the placement of a child 764
under this section, including review criteria, circumstances 765
that would require a change in the placement of the child, and a 766
timeline for conducting review and taking appropriate action." 767

Delete lines 3251 through 3293 768

After line 3293, insert: 769

"Sec. 5153.122. Each PCSA caseworker hired after January 770
1, 2007, shall complete in-service training during the first 771
year of the caseworker's continuous employment as a PCSA 772
caseworker, except that the executive director of the public 773
children services agency may waive the training requirement for 774
a school of social work graduate who participated in the 775
university partnership program described in division (E) of 776
section 5180.42 of the Revised Code and as provided in section 777
5153.124 of the Revised Code. The training shall consist of 778
courses in all of the following: 779

(A) Recognizing, accepting reports of, and preventing 780
child abuse, neglect, and dependency; 781

(B) Assessing child safety; 782

(C) Assessing risks; 783

(D) Safety and risk assessments for youth with 784
disabilities; 785

(E) Interviewing persons, including individuals with 786

<u>developmental, communication, and other disabilities;</u>	787
<u>interviewing techniques using telephone, videoconferencing or</u>	788
<u>any similar form technology; and analytical skills to improve</u>	789
<u>interviewing skills;</u>	790
(E) <u>(F)</u> Investigating cases;	791
(F) <u>(G)</u> Intervening;	792
(G) <u>(H)</u> Providing services to children and their families;	793
(H) <u>(I)</u> The importance of and need for accurate data;	794
(I) <u>(J)</u> Preparation for court;	795
(J) <u>(K)</u> Maintenance of case record information;	796
(K) <u>(L)</u> The legal duties of PCSA caseworkers to protect the	797
constitutional and statutory rights of children and families	798
from the initial time of contact during investigation through	799
treatment, including instruction regarding parents' rights and	800
the limitations that the Fourth Amendment to the United States	801
Constitution places upon caseworkers and their investigations;	802
(L) <u>(M)</u> Content on other topics relevant to child abuse,	803
neglect, and dependency, including permanency strategies,	804
concurrent planning, and adoption as an option for unintended	805
pregnancies.	806
After a PCSA caseworker's first year of continuous	807
employment as a PCSA caseworker, the caseworker annually shall	808
complete thirty-six hours of training in areas relevant to the	809
caseworker's assigned duties.	810
During the first two years of continuous employment as a	811
PCSA caseworker, each PCSA caseworker shall complete training in	812
recognizing the signs of domestic violence and its relationship	813

to child abuse as established in rules the director of children 814
and youth shall adopt pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised 815
Code." 816

Delete lines 3294 through 3473 817

After line 3473, insert: 818

"Sec. 5153.16. (A) Except as provided in section 2151.422 819
of the Revised Code, in accordance with rules adopted under 820
section 5153.166 of the Revised Code, and on behalf of children 821
in the county whom the public children services agency considers 822
to be in need of public care or protective services, the public 823
children services agency shall do all of the following: 824

(1) Make an investigation concerning any child alleged to 825
be an abused, neglected, or dependent child; 826

(2) Enter into agreements with the parent, guardian, or 827
other person having legal custody of any child, or with the 828
department of children and youth, department of ~~mental-~~ 829
behavioral health-and-addiction services, department of 830
developmental disabilities, other department, any certified 831
organization within or outside the county, or any agency or 832
institution outside the state, having legal custody of any 833
child, with respect to the custody, care, or placement of any 834
child, or with respect to any matter, in the interests of the 835
child, provided the permanent custody of a child shall not be 836
transferred by a parent to the public children services agency 837
without the consent of the juvenile court; 838

(3) Enter into a contract with an agency providing 839
prevention services in an effort to prevent neglect or abuse, to 840
enhance a child's welfare, and to preserve the family unit 841
intact when referring a family for prevention services under 842

division (J) of section 2151.421 of the Revised Code.	843
(4) Accept custody of children committed to the public children services agency by a court exercising juvenile jurisdiction;	844 845 846
(5) Provide such care as the public children services agency considers to be in the best interests of any child adjudicated to be an abused, neglected, or dependent child the agency finds to be in need of public care or service;	847 848 849 850
(6) Provide social services to any unmarried girl adjudicated to be an abused, neglected, or dependent child who is pregnant with or has been delivered of a child;	851 852 853
(7) Make available to the children with medical handicaps program of the department of health at its request any information concerning a child with a disability found to be in need of treatment under sections 3701.021 to 3701.028 of the Revised Code who is receiving services from the public children services agency;	854 855 856 857 858 859
(8) Provide temporary emergency care for any child considered by the public children services agency to be in need of such care, without agreement or commitment;	860 861 862
(9) Find certified foster homes, within or outside the county, for the care of children, including children with disabilities from other counties attending special schools in the county;	863 864 865 866
(10) Subject to the approval of the board of county commissioners and the department of children and youth, establish and operate a training school or enter into an agreement with any municipal corporation or other political	867 868 869 870

subdivision of the county respecting the operation, acquisition, 871
or maintenance of any children's home, training school, or other 872
institution for the care of children maintained by such 873
municipal corporation or political subdivision; 874

(11) Acquire and operate a county children's home, 875
establish, maintain, and operate a receiving home for the 876
temporary care of children, or procure certified foster homes 877
for this purpose; 878

(12) Enter into an agreement with the trustees of any 879
district children's home, respecting the operation of the 880
district children's home in cooperation with the other county 881
boards in the district; 882

(13) Cooperate with, make its services available to, and 883
act as the agent of persons, courts, the department of children 884
and youth, the department of health, and other organizations 885
within and outside the state, in matters relating to the welfare 886
of children, except that the public children services agency 887
shall not be required to provide supervision of or other 888
services related to the exercise of parenting time rights 889
granted pursuant to section 3109.051 or 3109.12 of the Revised 890
Code or companionship or visitation rights granted pursuant to 891
section 3109.051, 3109.11, or 3109.12 of the Revised Code unless 892
a juvenile court, pursuant to Chapter 2151. of the Revised Code, 893
or a common pleas court, pursuant to division (E) (6) of section 894
3113.31 of the Revised Code, requires the provision of 895
supervision or other services related to the exercise of the 896
parenting time rights or companionship or visitation rights; 897

(14) Make investigations at the request of any 898
superintendent of schools in the county or the principal of any 899
school concerning the application of any child adjudicated to be 900

an abused, neglected, or dependent child for release from 901
school, where such service is not provided through a school 902
attendance department; 903

(15) Administer funds provided under Title IV-E of the 904
"Social Security Act," 94 Stat. 501 (1980), 42 U.S.C.A. 671, as 905
amended, in accordance with rules adopted under section 5180.42 906
of the Revised Code; 907

(16) In addition to administering Title IV-E adoption 908
assistance funds, enter into agreements to make adoption 909
assistance payments under section 5153.163 of the Revised Code; 910

(17) Implement a system of safety and risk assessment, in 911
accordance with rules adopted by the director of children and 912
youth, to assist the public children services agency in 913
determining the risk of abuse or neglect to a child; 914

(18) Enter into a plan of cooperation with the board of 915
county commissioners under section 307.983 of the Revised Code 916
and comply with each fiscal agreement the board enters into 917
under section 307.98 of the Revised Code that include family 918
services duties of public children services agencies and 919
contracts the board enters into under sections 307.981 and 920
307.982 of the Revised Code that affect the public children 921
services agency; 922

(19) Make reasonable efforts to prevent the removal of an 923
alleged or adjudicated abused, neglected, or dependent child 924
from the child's home, eliminate the continued removal of the 925
child from the child's home, or make it possible for the child 926
to return home safely, except that reasonable efforts of that 927
nature are not required when a court has made a determination 928
under division (A) (2) of section 2151.419 of the Revised Code; 929

(20) Make reasonable efforts to place the child in a 930
timely manner in accordance with the permanency plan approved 931
under division (E) of section 2151.417 of the Revised Code and 932
to complete whatever steps are necessary to finalize the 933
permanent placement of the child; 934

(21) Administer a Title IV-A program identified under 935
division (A) (4) (c) or (h) of section 5101.80 of the Revised Code 936
that the department of children and youth provides for the 937
public children services agency to administer under the 938
department's supervision pursuant to section 5101.801 of the 939
Revised Code; 940

(22) Administer the kinship permanency incentive program 941
created under section 5180.52 of the Revised Code under the 942
supervision of the director of children and youth; 943

(23) Provide independent living services pursuant to 944
sections 2151.81 to 2151.84 of the Revised Code; 945

(24) File a missing child report with a local law 946
enforcement agency upon becoming aware that a child in the 947
custody of the public children services agency is or may be 948
missing. 949

(25) (a) For a child who is in the custody of the public 950
children services agency and is under the age of five years old, 951
is a child with a developmental disability, as defined in 952
section 5123.01 of the Revised Code, or is a child placed in a 953
treatment foster home or medically fragile foster home, as 954
defined in section 5103.02 of the Revised Code, conduct visits 955
as follows to determine the well-being of the child: 956

(i) One face-to-face visit with the child and substitute 957
caregiver within the substitute care setting during the first 958

week of placement, not including the first day of placement; 959

(ii) One face-to-face visit with the child and the 960
substitute caregiver twice monthly, not within the same week; 961

(iii) One visit with the child via videoconferencing or 962
any similar form of technology a minimum of once a week during 963
the weeks when a face-to-face visit is not required under 964
division (A) (25) (a) (ii) of this section, except the agency shall 965
arrange a visit between the child and a service provider 966
involved in the child's case plan via telephone, 967
videoconferencing, or any similar form of technology when a 968
caseworker is unable to visit under this division. 969

(b) A caseworker employed by the agency that has full 970
responsibility for case planning and case management of the 971
child's case shall conduct at least one of the monthly visits 972
required under division (A) (25) (a) (ii) of this section. Any 973
other visits may be conducted by a caseworker employed by 974
another agency contracted by the agency that has full 975
responsibility for case planning and case management of the 976
child's case to provide services for the case. 977

(26) For an in-home safety plan, conduct weekly home 978
visits in which the agency shall do both of the following: 979

(a) Make face-to-face contact with each child identified 980
in the safety plan and each parent, guardian, or custodian 981
residing in the home; 982

(b) Complete an assessment of the active safety threats. 983

(27) For an out-of-home safety plan, do all of the 984
following: 985

(a) Have weekly contact with the children or persons 986

<u>responsible for the action steps to control active safety</u>	987
<u>threats;</u>	988
<u>(b) Have face-to-face contact with each child and</u>	989
<u>responsible party involved every other week;</u>	990
<u>(c) Complete an assessment of the active safety threats</u>	991
<u>during each visit.</u>	992
<u>(28) Require additional oversight of a case by a</u>	993
<u>supervisory team decision process, including a risk and</u>	994
<u>vulnerability review, at the following key decision points:</u>	995
<u>(a) Screen decisions involving any of the following:</u>	996
<u>(i) Infants under one year of age;</u>	997
<u>(ii) Children who are at least one year of age but less</u>	998
<u>than five years of age who have been the subject of a</u>	999
<u>substantiated report of abuse or neglect;</u>	1000
<u>(iii) Children or a sibling of a child who has experienced</u>	1001
<u>a substantiated or indicated near fatality.</u>	1002
<u>(b) Prior to closing an investigation or assessment and</u>	1003
<u>prior to implementation of a reunification plan involving any of</u>	1004
<u>the following:</u>	1005
<u>(i) Children who are five years of age and younger;</u>	1006
<u>(ii) Children with a known disability.</u>	1007
<u>(c) Upon the receipt of a new report of abuse or neglect</u>	1008
<u>involving a child with an open case plan.</u>	1009
<u>(29) Report to the department of children and youth when</u>	1010
<u>children who are five years of age or younger under an out-of-</u>	1011
<u>home safety plan are the subject of a second report of abuse or</u>	1012

<u>neglect.</u>	1013
(B) The public children services agency shall use the	1014
system implemented pursuant to division (A) (17) of this section	1015
in connection with an investigation undertaken pursuant to	1016
division (G) (1) of section 2151.421 of the Revised Code to	1017
assess both of the following:	1018
(1) The ongoing safety of the child;	1019
(2) The appropriateness of the intensity and duration of	1020
the services provided to meet child and family needs throughout	1021
the duration of a case.	1022
(C) Except as provided in section 2151.422 of the Revised	1023
Code, in accordance with rules of the director of children and	1024
youth, and on behalf of children in the county whom the public	1025
children services agency considers to be in need of public care	1026
or protective services, the public children services agency may	1027
do the following:	1028
(1) Provide or find, with other child serving systems,	1029
specialized foster care for the care of children in a	1030
specialized foster home, as defined in section 5103.02 of the	1031
Revised Code, certified under section 5103.03 of the Revised	1032
Code;	1033
(2) (a) Except as limited by divisions (C) (2) (b) and (c) of	1034
this section, contract with the following for the purpose of	1035
assisting the agency with its duties:	1036
(i) County departments of job and family services;	1037
(ii) Boards of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health	1038
services;	1039
(iii) County boards of developmental disabilities;	1040

(iv) Regional councils of political subdivisions	1041
established under Chapter 167. of the Revised Code;	1042
(v) Private and government providers of services;	1043
(vi) Managed care organizations and prepaid health plans.	1044
(b) A public children services agency contract under	1045
division (C) (2) (a) of this section regarding the agency's duties	1046
under section 2151.421 of the Revised Code may not provide for	1047
the entity under contract with the agency to perform any service	1048
not authorized by the department's rules.	1049
(c) Only a county children services board appointed under	1050
section 5153.03 of the Revised Code that is a public children	1051
services agency may contract under division (C) (2) (a) of this	1052
section. If an entity specified in division (B) or (C) of	1053
section 5153.02 of the Revised Code is the public children	1054
services agency for a county, the board of county commissioners	1055
may enter into contracts pursuant to section 307.982 of the	1056
Revised Code regarding the agency's duties.	1057
<u>(D) The director of children and youth may adopt rules to</u>	1058
<u>broaden the types of children to whom divisions (A) (28) and (29)</u>	1059
<u>of this section apply."</u>	1060

The motion was _____ agreed to.

<u>SYNOPSIS</u>	1061
Report notifications, lead agency, and information sharing	1062
R.C. 2151.421	1063

Requires a public children services agency (PCSA), when a child who is the subject of a child abuse or neglect report resides in another county, to respond to and investigate the report immediately and notify the PCSA in the county where the child resides within 24 hours of receiving the report.

Requires, when one or more PCSAs are involved in child abuse or neglect reports, both PCSAs to determine the lead agency within one business day of receipt of the report (rather than before a case is filed in court, as in the current bill).

Requires specified entities that must provide the PCSA or peace officer with relevant information concerning a child abuse or abuse report under the bill on request must do so within four business days after receipt of the report.

Visit requirements, compliance reports, and additional oversight

R.C. 2151.467, 2151.468, and 5153.16

Decreases the bill's requirements for in-person caseworker visitation with children in residential facilities, children under 5, children with a developmental disability, and children in a treatment or medically fragile foster home from weekly to, generally, twice monthly in-person visits and once a week contact via videoconferencing when the caseworker is not visiting in-person.

Codifies existing Department of Children and Youth (DCY) rules requiring weekly in-person caseworker visits with children on in-home safety plans and weekly contact and every other week in-person visits with children on out-of-home safety plans.

Requires additional oversight by a supervisory team

decision process at specified key decision points for infants, 1092
children 1-5 with a substantiated report of child abuse or 1093
neglect, and children or a sibling of a child who has 1094
experienced a substantiated or indicated near fatality. 1095

Requires a PCSA to report to DCY when children who are 1096
five or younger under an out-of-home safety plan are the subject 1097
of a second report of abuse or neglect. 1098

Permits the DCY Director to adopt rules to broaden the 1099
type of children to whom the provisions requiring additional 1100
oversight and PCSA reporting to DCY apply. 1101

PCSA caseworker training 1102

R.C. 5153.122 1103

Requires PCSA caseworker training to include courses on 1104
the following: 1105

-- Safety and risk assessment for youth with disabilities 1106
(rather than disability assessment, as in the current bill). 1107

-- Interviewing persons under continuing law, including, 1108
under the amendment, individuals with developmental, 1109
communication, and other disabilities and interviewing 1110
techniques using telephone, videoconferencing or any similar 1111
form technology, in addition to analytical skills to improve 1112
interviewing skills under the current bill. 1113