

Subject Heaven's Law
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Overview

This bill, "Heaven's Law," adds requirements for child welfare agencies in Minnesota to search central child abuse and neglect registries in other states, when assessing or investigating a child maltreatment allegation, and to consider the results of the searches when making a determination that child protective services are needed. The bill also requires the commissioner of human services to investigate and report on ways to improve information-sharing between states.

Summary

Section	Description
1	Title. Specifies that this act will be called "Heaven's Law."
2	Duties of local welfare agency and local law enforcement agency upon receipt of report; mandatory notification between police or sheriff and agency. Amends § 626.556, subd. 10. Adds requirement for the local welfare agency or the agency responsible for the child welfare assessment or investigation to search the central child abuse and neglect registry in each state where the alleged offender has resided in the past five years.
3	Determinations. Amends § 626.556, subd. 10e. Requires the local welfare agency to carefully consider past maltreatment and information from any state's central child abuse and neglect registry, when determining whether child protective services are needed.
4	Interstate transfer of child protection data. Requires the commissioner of human services to investigate and report to the legislature on potential ways to improve the sharing of child maltreatment information between states, including considering interstate compacts. Requires the report to the legislature by February 1, 2020.



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