
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6640 (as amended by House "A")*

AN ACT CONCERNING HOME VISITS AND EVALUATIONS BY THE COMMISSIONER OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.

SUMMARY

With one exception, this bill requires the Department of Children and Families (DCF) commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, to conduct home visits or evaluations that pertain to a safety plan in-person (see below).

The bill requires the department to conduct the visit or evaluation remotely by telephonic, video, or other conferencing platform, if any resident of the home or individual responsible for conducting the visit or evaluation is subject to a quarantine or isolation order authorized by the governor and issued by the Department of Public Health (DPH).

Under the bill a "safety plan" is any plan established by DCF to address or mitigate parent or guardian behaviors or conditions or circumstances in a home that may make the home unsafe for children, by:

1. identifying actions that have been taken or will be taken to address or mitigate the behaviors, conditions, or circumstances;
2. specifying the individuals or providers responsible for taking such actions; and
3. specifying timeframes for the department's review of such actions.

*House amendment "A" strikes the underlying bill and replaces it with provisions that require DCF to conduct home visits that pertain to safety plans in person, except in cases where DPH has issued a quarantine or isolation order in which case they must do so remotely.

The underlying bill explicitly prohibited DCF from conducting visits or evaluations remotely in specific circumstances.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2023

COMMITTEE ACTION

Committee on Children

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 17 Nay 2 (02/28/2023)