



House of Representatives

File No. 761

General Assembly

January Session, 2023

(Reprint of File No. 49)

Substitute House Bill No. 6640
As Amended by House Amendment
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner
May 11, 2023

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

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) For the purposes of this
2 section, "safety plan" means any plan established by the Department of
3 Children and Families to address or mitigate parent or guardian
4 behaviors or conditions or circumstances in a home that may render
5 such home unsafe for a child or children, by (1) identifying actions that
6 have been taken or will be taken to address or mitigate such behaviors,
7 conditions or circumstances, and (2) specifying the individuals or
8 providers responsible for taking such actions, and timeframes for
9 review of such actions by the department.

10 (b) When the Commissioner of Children and Families, or the
11 commissioner's designee, conducts a visit to or evaluation of a home
12 pursuant to a safety plan, such visit or evaluation shall be conducted in
13 person, except that such visit or evaluation shall be conducted by

14 telephonic, video or other conferencing platform if any resident of such
15 home or individual responsible for conducting such visit or evaluation
16 is subject to an order of quarantine or isolation pursuant to section 19a-
17 131b of the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	New section

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill as amended requires the Department of Children and Families to conduct home visits or evaluations in person with certain exceptions, which is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact to the State or municipalities.

House "A" struck the language of the underlying bill and replaced it with the language above, resulting in no fiscal impact.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

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)