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## OLR Bill Analysis

### SB 126

#### ***AN ACT CONCERNING IN-PERSON HOME VISITS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.***

#### **SUMMARY**

This bill requires the Department of Children and Families (DCF) commissioner, or her designee, to do home visits or evaluations in person, rather than by teleconference, if the department's safety plan (see below) indicates that a parent or guardian living in the home has a substance use disorder.

By law, "substance use disorder" is the recurrent use of alcohol or drugs leading to clinically and functionally significant impairment, including, health problems, disability, and failure to meet major responsibilities at work, school, or home.

Under the bill, a "safety plan" is a plan DCF makes to address or mitigate parent or guardian behaviors or conditions or circumstances in a home that may make the home unsafe for children. A safety plan specifies (1) actions that have been or will be taken to address or mitigate the unsafe behaviors, conditions, or circumstances; (2) who will do them, and (3) when the department will review the actions.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2024

#### **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Committee on Children

Joint Favorable

Yea 17 Nay 0 (02/29/2024)