

B-Engrossed
Senate Bill 942

Ordered by the Senate June 30
Including Senate Amendments dated April 14 and June 30

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

Requires certain findings to be made in child abuse investigations.

Provides that child abuse investigations must be conducted in accordance with statutes and result in specified findings until certain criteria have been met.

[Requires Department of Human Services to conduct exit interview with child or ward who is five years of age or older within 14 days of removing child or ward from placement. Sets forth assessment requirements of exit interview. Becomes operative January 1, 2018.]

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to child safety; and declaring an emergency.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2017 Act is added to and made a part of ORS 419B.005 to**
5 **419B.050.**

6 **SECTION 2. (1) An investigation conducted under ORS 419B.020 must conclude in one of**
7 **the following findings:**

8 (a) **That the report of child abuse is founded;**

9 (b) **That the report of child abuse is unfounded; or**

10 (c) **That the report of child abuse cannot be determined.**

11 (2) **All investigations conducted under ORS 419B.020 must be conducted in accordance**
12 **with ORS 419B.005 to 419B.050 and result in the findings described in subsection (1) of this**
13 **section until all of the following criteria have been met:**

14 (a) **The child welfare workload model for the Department of Human Services is staffed**
15 **at 95 percent or greater;**

16 (b) **A centralized, statewide child abuse hotline has been established and in operation for**
17 **at least six consecutive months;**

18 (c) **The department has completed investigations within timelines mandated by law and**
19 **rule at least 90 percent of the time for at least six consecutive months;**

20 (d) **The department has conducted in-person contacts with children who are the subject**
21 **of reports of child abuse, as mandated by law and rule, in at least 90 percent of the reports**
22 **of child abuse for at least six consecutive months; and**

23 (e) **The reabuse rate for children in this state is below the national average.**

24 **SECTION 3. Section 2 of this 2017 Act applies to investigations pending or commenced**
25 **on or after the effective date of this 2017 Act.**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 **SECTION 4. This 2017 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
2 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2017 Act takes effect**
3 **on its passage.**

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