

TO: Interim Committee Members, DPHHS

FROM: Lois Leibrand & Lisa Stroh, Montanan's Against Child Abuse Organization

RE: Comments on LCCF07 Draft Bill

DATE: August 20, 2012

The organization, Montanan's Against Child Abuse, is in support of LCCF07, with the following changes:

Modify:

(8) (p. 5 of draft bill) The department shall, upon request from any reporter of alleged child abuse or neglect, confirm whether or not the report has been received, the report's assigned level of response, and that it is being acted upon."

Add (This is DPHHS's recommended language, except for "shall, upon request"):

(9) When a professional or official required to report makes a report, the Department shall, upon request, share information with that professional or official with regards to whether an investigation into the report shall occur, the timeframes in which the investigation will occur, and information limited to the outcome of the investigation, the factual basis for the outcome, and any subsequent action that will be taken on behalf of the child(ren) who are the subject of the report.

Modify:

(d) (p. 6 of draft bill) mandatory reporter, ombudsman, a parent, ~~grandparent, aunt, uncle, brother, sister~~, guardian, or person designated by a parent or guardian of the child who is the subject of the report in the records or other person responsible for the child's welfare, without disclosure of the identity of any person who reported or provided information on the alleged child abuse or neglect contained in the records;

Respectfully submitted,



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