

Subject Child maltreatment investigation requirements

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Date February 22, 2021

Summary

Under section 260E.20, subdivision 2, when a local welfare agency receives a screened in report of child maltreatment, the agency must conduct face-to-face contact with the child and the child's primary caregiver to complete a safety assessment and ensure the child's safety. If the report alleges sexual abuse or substantial child endangerment, this contact must occur immediately, in no longer than 24 hours. For other reports, this contact must occur within five days.

This bill allows for face-to-face contact in response to a report alleging sexual abuse or substantial child endangerment to be postponed for up to five calendar days, if:

- 1) the child is residing in a location that is confirmed to restrict contact with the alleged offender; or
- 2) the local welfare agency is pursuing a court order for the child's caregiver to produce the child for an interview under section 260E.22, subdivision 5.