HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Maltreatment of Minors in Juvenile Correctional Facilities

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Overview

Currently, the local county welfare agency in the county where a juvenile correctional facility is located has responsibility for assessing or investigating reports of maltreatment in a juvenile correctional facility. This bill transfers this responsibility to the department of human services.

Section

1 **Persons mandated to report.** Amends § 626.556, subd. 3. Clarifies provisions requiring a person mandated to report child abuse or neglect occurring in a licensed facility. Specifies the agency to which a person must report the child abuse or neglect.

2 **Agency responsible for assessing or investigating reports of maltreatment.** Amends § 626.556, subd. 3c. Specifies that the department of human services has responsibility for assessing and investigating reports of alleged child maltreatment in juvenile correctional facilities licensed by the department of corrections. Currently, the local county welfare agency where the institution is located has this authority.

3 **Duties of the commissioner; neglect or abuse in facility.** Amends § 626.556, subd. 10b. Provides that an agency responsible for assessing or investigating a report of alleged child maltreatment occurring in a facility must be given access to information relevant to the assessment or investigation, and access to the facility. Provides that a facility that denies the investigating agency access to information must be subject to a negative licensing action. Also permits the investigating and licensing agencies to share not public data as necessary to complete an investigation or determine an appropriate licensing action.

4 **Effective date.** July 1, 2001.