HOUSE RESEARCH
Bill Summary

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Overview

In September 2014, Governor Dayton established the Governor's Task Force on the Protection of Children to review the existing child protection system and its implementation by state, county, and local agencies. The task force was charged with issuing preliminary recommendations by December 31, 2014, and final recommendations by March 31, 2015. This bill amends the Maltreatment of Minors Act in order to implement two of the preliminary recommendations from the task force.

Section

1 **Public policy.** Amends § 626.556, subd. 1. Modifies the public policy statement to reflect that when reports alleging child abuse or neglect are received, the health and safety of the children are the primary consideration. (Current law focuses on engaging the family's protective capabilities while addressing child safety and risk.)

Makes technical changes to the structure of this subdivision.

2 **Report; information provided to parent.** Amends § 626.556, subd. 7. In paragraph (c), strikes language prohibiting the use of information contained in screened out reports.