

Subject Child maltreatment assessment and investigation; immunity

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Overview

This bill modifies child maltreatment investigation and assessment procedures related to face-to-face contact, child interviews, and documentation, and specifies immunity for minors making maltreatment reports or participating in maltreatment assessments or investigations.

Summary

Section	Description
1	Face-to-face contact. Amends § 260E.20, subd. 2. Specifies that the responsible agency is not required to give notice before conducting initial face-to-face contact with the child and the child's caregiver, if the screened in report alleges maltreatment that is a significant safety concern.
2	Child interview procedure. Amends § 260E.22, subd. 2. Requires a child interview to occur outside the presence of and prior to any interview of the alleged offender or parent, legal custodian, guardian, or school official. Specifies that a child interview may proceed without a parent or guardian's permission; requires that an interview of a child in foster care who is over four years old take place outside of the presence of the foster parent.
3	Determination after family assessment. Amends § 260E.24, subd. 2. Requires the local welfare agency to document family assessment case information in the child or family's case notes.
4	Immunity. Amends § 260E.34. Adds paragraph (f), specifying that a minor who makes a maltreatment report or assists in a maltreatment investigation or assessment is immune from civil or criminal liability that might otherwise result from making the report or assisting in the assessment or investigation.



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