HB 2440 -- Child Abuse and Neglect Reports

Sponsor: Schoeller

This bill changes the laws regarding hotline calls reporting child abuse and neglect to the Children's Division within the Department of Social Services. In its main provisions, the bill:

- (1) Requires hotline and service workers involved in a case of a child death or severe injury to receive a preliminary evaluation by the division to determine if a performance assessment is required. A required assessment must be completed within three days of the child's death or injury;
- (2) Requires the division to review cases where repeated calls regarding the same child occurred within a 72-hour time period to determine if the calls meet the criteria to initiate a child abuse and neglect report;
- (3) Requires hotline workers to advise individuals to call 911 when a child may be in immediate danger; and
- (4) Prohibits any division service worker who responds to a child abuse and neglect report initiated by a hotline call from leaving a business card, pamphlets, or other identifying information at a residence if there is no person present at the time of the attempted home visit.