

House _____ Amendment NO. _____

Offered By _____

1 AMEND House Committee Substitute for Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 530,
2 Page 1, in the Title, Line 3, by deleting the phrase "termination of parental rights" and inserting in
3 lieu thereof the phrase "abused and neglected children"; and
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5 Further amend said bill and page, Section A, Line 2, by inserting after all of said section and line the
6 following:
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8 "210.145. 1. The division shall develop protocols which give priority to:

9 (1) Ensuring the well-being and safety of the child in instances where child abuse or neglect
10 has been alleged;

11 (2) Promoting the preservation and reunification of children and families consistent with
12 state and federal law;

13 (3) Providing due process for those accused of child abuse or neglect; and

14 (4) Maintaining an information system operating at all times, capable of receiving and
15 maintaining reports. This information system shall have the ability to receive reports over a single,
16 statewide toll-free number. Such information system shall maintain the results of all investigations,
17 family assessments and services, and other relevant information.

18 2. The division shall utilize structured decision-making protocols for classification purposes
19 of all child abuse and neglect reports. The protocols developed by the division shall give priority to
20 ensuring the well-being and safety of the child. All child abuse and neglect reports shall be initiated
21 within twenty-four hours and shall be classified based upon the reported risk and injury to the child.
22 The division shall promulgate rules regarding the structured decision-making protocols to be utilized
23 for all child abuse and neglect reports.

24 3. Upon receipt of a report, the division shall determine if the report merits investigation,
25 including reports which if true would constitute a suspected violation of any of the following:
26 section 565.020, 565.021, 565.023, 565.024, or 565.050 if the victim is a child less than eighteen
27 years of age, section 566.030 or 566.060 if the victim is a child less than eighteen years of age, or
28 other crimes under chapter 566 if the victim is a child less than eighteen years of age and the
29 perpetrator is twenty-one years of age or older, section 567.050 if the victim is a child less than
30 eighteen years of age, section 568.020, 568.030, 568.045, 568.050, 568.060, 568.080, or 568.090,
31 section 573.025, 573.035, 573.037, or 573.040, or an attempt to commit any such crimes. The
32 division shall immediately communicate all reports that merit investigation to its appropriate local
33 office and any relevant information as may be contained in the information system. The local
34 division staff shall determine, through the use of protocols developed by the division, whether an
35 investigation or the family assessment and services approach should be used to respond to the
36 allegation. The protocols developed by the division shall give priority to ensuring the well-being and

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1 safety of the child.

2 4. When the child abuse and neglect hotline receives three or more calls, within a
3 seventy-two hour period, from one or more individuals concerning the same child, the division shall
4 conduct a review to determine whether the calls meet the criteria and statutory definition for a child
5 abuse and neglect report to be accepted. In conducting the review, the division shall contact the
6 hotline caller or callers in order to collect information to determine whether the calls meet the
7 criteria for harassment.

8 5. The local office shall contact the appropriate law enforcement agency immediately upon
9 receipt of a report which division personnel determine merits an investigation and provide such
10 agency with a detailed description of the report received. In such cases the local division office shall
11 request the assistance of the local law enforcement agency in all aspects of the investigation of the
12 complaint. The appropriate law enforcement agency shall either assist the division in the
13 investigation or provide the division, within twenty-four hours, an explanation in writing detailing
14 the reasons why it is unable to assist.

15 6. The local office of the division shall cause an investigation or family assessment and
16 services approach to be initiated in accordance with the protocols established in subsection 2 of this
17 section, except in cases where the sole basis for the report is educational neglect. If the report
18 indicates that educational neglect is the only complaint and there is no suspicion of other neglect or
19 abuse, the investigation shall be initiated within seventy-two hours of receipt of the report. If the
20 report indicates the child is in danger of serious physical harm or threat to life, an investigation shall
21 include direct observation of the subject child within twenty-four hours of the receipt of the report.
22 Local law enforcement shall take all necessary steps to facilitate such direct observation. Callers to
23 the child abuse and neglect hotline shall be instructed by the division's hotline to call 911 in instances
24 where the child may be in immediate danger. If the parents of the child are not the alleged [abusers]
25 perpetrators, a parent of the child must be notified prior to the child being interviewed by the
26 division. No person responding to or investigating a child abuse and neglect report shall call prior to
27 a home visit or leave any documentation of any attempted visit, such as business cards, pamphlets, or
28 other similar identifying information if he or she has a reasonable basis to believe the following
29 factors are present:

30 (1) (a) No person is present in the home at the time of the home visit; and

31 (b) The alleged perpetrator resides in the home or the physical safety of the child may be
32 compromised if the alleged perpetrator becomes aware of the attempted visit;

33 (2) The alleged perpetrator will be alerted regarding the attempted visit; or

34 (3) The family has a history of domestic violence or fleeing the community.

35 If the alleged perpetrator is present during a visit by the person responding to or investigating the
36 report, such person shall provide written material to the alleged perpetrator informing him or her of
37 his or her rights regarding such visit, including but not limited to the right to contact an attorney.
38 The alleged perpetrator shall be given a reasonable amount of time to read such written material or
39 have such material read to him or her by the case worker before the visit commences, but in no event
40 shall such time exceed five minutes; except that, such requirement to provide written material and
41 reasonable time to read such material shall not apply in cases where the child faces an immediate
42 threat or danger, or the person responding to investigating the report is or feels threatened or in
43 danger of physical harm. If the abuse is alleged to have occurred in a school or child care facility the
44 division shall not meet with the child in any school building or child-care facility building where
45 abuse of such child is alleged to have occurred. When the child is reported absent from the
46 residence, the location and the well-being of the child shall be verified. For purposes of this
47 subsection, child care facility shall have the same meaning as such term is defined in section
48 210.201.

1 7. The director of the division shall name at least one chief investigator for each local
2 division office, who shall direct the division response on any case involving a second or subsequent
3 incident regarding the same subject child or perpetrator. The duties of a chief investigator shall
4 include verification of direct observation of the subject child by the division and shall ensure
5 information regarding the status of an investigation is provided to the public school district liaison.
6 The public school district liaison shall develop protocol in conjunction with the chief investigator to
7 ensure information regarding an investigation is shared with appropriate school personnel. The
8 superintendent of each school district shall designate a specific person or persons to act as the public
9 school district liaison. Should the subject child attend a nonpublic school the chief investigator shall
10 notify the school principal of the investigation. Upon notification of an investigation, all
11 information received by the public school district liaison or the school shall be subject to the
12 provisions of the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C., Section
13 1232g, and federal rule 34 C.F.R., Part 99.

14 8. The investigation shall include but not be limited to the nature, extent, and cause of the
15 abuse or neglect; the identity and age of the person responsible for the abuse or neglect; the names
16 and conditions of other children in the home, if any; the home environment and the relationship of
17 the subject child to the parents or other persons responsible for the child's care; any indication of
18 incidents of physical violence against any other household or family member; and other pertinent
19 data.

20 9. When a report has been made by a person required to report under section 210.115, the
21 division shall contact the person who made such report within forty-eight hours of the receipt of the
22 report in order to ensure that full information has been received and to obtain any additional
23 information or medical records, or both, that may be pertinent.

24 10. Upon completion of the investigation, if the division suspects that the report was made
25 maliciously or for the purpose of harassment, the division shall refer the report and any evidence of
26 malice or harassment to the local prosecuting or circuit attorney.

27 11. Multidisciplinary teams shall be used whenever conducting the investigation as
28 determined by the division in conjunction with local law enforcement. Multidisciplinary teams shall
29 be used in providing protective or preventive social services, including the services of law
30 enforcement, a liaison of the local public school, the juvenile officer, the juvenile court, and other
31 agencies, both public and private.

32 12. For all family support team meetings involving an alleged victim of child abuse or
33 neglect, the parents, legal counsel for the parents, foster parents, the legal guardian or custodian of
34 the child, the guardian ad litem for the child, and the volunteer advocate for the child shall be
35 provided notice and be permitted to attend all such meetings. Family members, other than alleged
36 perpetrators, or other community informal or formal service providers that provide significant
37 support to the child and other individuals may also be invited at the discretion of the parents of the
38 child. In addition, the parents, the legal counsel for the parents, the legal guardian or custodian and
39 the foster parents may request that other individuals, other than alleged perpetrators, be permitted to
40 attend such team meetings. Once a person is provided notice of or attends such team meetings, the
41 division or the convenor of the meeting shall provide such persons with notice of all such subsequent
42 meetings involving the child. Families may determine whether individuals invited at their discretion
43 shall continue to be invited.

44 13. If the appropriate local division personnel determine after an investigation has begun that
45 completing an investigation is not appropriate, the division shall conduct a family assessment and
46 services approach. The division shall provide written notification to local law enforcement prior to
47 terminating any investigative process. The reason for the termination of the investigative process
48 shall be documented in the record of the division and the written notification submitted to local law

enforcement. Such notification shall not preclude nor prevent any investigation by law enforcement.

14. If the appropriate local division personnel determines to use a family assessment and services approach, the division shall:

(1) Assess any service needs of the family. The assessment of risk and service needs shall be based on information gathered from the family and other sources;

(2) Provide services which are voluntary and time-limited unless it is determined by the division based on the assessment of risk that there will be a high risk of abuse or neglect if the family refuses to accept the services. The division shall identify services for families where it is determined that the child is at high risk of future abuse or neglect. The division shall thoroughly document in the record its attempt to provide voluntary services and the reasons these services are important to reduce the risk of future abuse or neglect to the child. If the family continues to refuse voluntary services or the child needs to be protected, the division may commence an investigation;

(3) Commence an immediate investigation if at any time during the family assessment and services approach the division determines that an investigation, as delineated in sections 210.109 to 210.183, is required. The division staff who have conducted the assessment may remain involved in the provision of services to the child and family;

(4) Document at the time the case is closed, the outcome of the family assessment and services approach, any service provided and the removal of risk to the child, if it existed.

15. (1) Within [thirty] forty-five days of an oral report of abuse or neglect, the local office shall update the information in the information system. The information system shall contain, at a minimum, the determination made by the division as a result of the investigation, identifying information on the subjects of the report, those responsible for the care of the subject child and other relevant dispositional information. The division shall complete all investigations within [thirty] forty-five days, unless good cause for the failure to complete the investigation is specifically documented in the information system. Good cause for failure to complete an investigation shall include, but not be limited to:

(a) The necessity to obtain relevant reports of medical providers, medical examiners, psychological testing, law enforcement agencies, forensic testing, and analysis of relevant evidence by third parties which has not been completed and provided to the division;

(b) The attorney general or the prosecuting or circuit attorney of the city or county in which a criminal investigation is pending certifies in writing to the division that there is a pending criminal investigation of the incident under investigation by the division and the issuing of a decision by the division will adversely impact the progress of the investigation; or

(c) The child victim, the subject of the investigation or another witness with information relevant to the investigation is unable or temporarily unwilling to provide complete information within the specified time frames due to illness, injury, unavailability, mental capacity, age, developmental disability, or other cause.

The division shall document any such reasons for failure to complete the investigation.

(2) If [a child involved in a pending investigation dies] a child fatality or near-fatality is involved in a report of abuse or neglect, the investigation shall remain open until the division's investigation surrounding [the death] such death or near-fatal injury is completed.

(3) If the investigation is not completed within [thirty] forty-five days, the information system shall be updated at regular intervals and upon the completion of the investigation, which shall be completed no later than ninety days after receipt of a report of abuse or neglect, or one hundred and twenty days after receipt of a report of abuse or neglect involving sexual abuse, or until the division's investigation is complete in cases involving a child fatality or near-fatality. The information in the information system shall be updated to reflect any subsequent findings, including any changes to the findings based on an administrative or judicial hearing on the matter.

1 16. A person required to report under section 210.115 to the division and any person making
2 a report of child abuse or neglect made to the division which is not made anonymously shall be
3 informed by the division of his or her right to obtain information concerning the disposition of his or
4 her report. Such person shall receive, from the local office, if requested, information on the general
5 disposition of his or her report. Such person may receive, if requested, findings and information
6 concerning the case. Such release of information shall be at the discretion of the director based upon
7 a review of the reporter's ability to assist in protecting the child or the potential harm to the child or
8 other children within the family. The local office shall respond to the request within forty-five days.
9 The findings shall be made available to the reporter within five days of the outcome of the
10 investigation. If the report is determined to be unsubstantiated, the reporter may request that the
11 report be referred by the division to the office of child advocate for children's protection and services
12 established in sections 37.700 to 37.730. Upon request by a reporter under this subsection, the
13 division shall refer an unsubstantiated report of child abuse or neglect to the office of child advocate
14 for children's protection and services.

15 17. The division shall provide to any individual who is not satisfied with the results of an
16 investigation information about the office of child advocate and the services it may provide under
17 sections 37.700 to 37.730.

18 18. In any judicial proceeding involving the custody of a child the fact that a report may
19 have been made pursuant to sections 210.109 to 210.183 shall not be admissible. However:

20 (1) Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit the introduction of evidence from independent
21 sources to support the allegations that may have caused a report to have been made; and

22 (2) The court may on its own motion, or shall if requested by a party to the proceeding, make
23 an inquiry not on the record with the children's division to determine if such a report has been made.
24 If a report has been made, the court may stay the custody proceeding until the children's division
25 completes its investigation.

26 19. In any judicial proceeding involving the custody of a child where the court determines
27 that the child is in need of services under paragraph (d) of subdivision (1) of subsection 1 of section
28 211.031 and has taken jurisdiction, the child's parent, guardian or custodian shall not be entered into
29 the registry.

30 20. The children's division is hereby granted the authority to promulgate rules and
31 regulations pursuant to the provisions of section 207.021 and chapter 536 to carry out the provisions
32 of sections 210.109 to 210.183.

33 21. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is created
34 under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is
35 subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and
36 chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to
37 chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently
38 held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after
39 August 28, 2000, shall be invalid and void.

40 210.152. 1. All identifying information, including telephone reports reported pursuant to
41 section 210.145, relating to reports of abuse or neglect received by the division shall be retained by
42 the division and removed from the records of the division as follows:

43 (1) For investigation reports contained in the central registry, identifying information shall
44 be retained by the division;

45 (2) (a) For investigation reports initiated against a person required to report pursuant to
46 section 210.115, where insufficient evidence of abuse or neglect is found by the division and where
47 the division determines the allegation of abuse or neglect was made maliciously, for purposes of
48 harassment or in retaliation for the filing of a report by a person required to report, identifying

1 information shall be expunged by the division within forty-five days from the conclusion of the
2 investigation;

3 (b) For investigation reports, where insufficient evidence of abuse or neglect is found by the
4 division and where the division determines the allegation of abuse or neglect was made maliciously,
5 for purposes of harassment or in retaliation for the filing of a report, identifying information shall be
6 expunged by the division within forty-five days from the conclusion of the investigation;

7 (c) For investigation reports initiated by a person required to report under section 210.115,
8 where insufficient evidence of abuse or neglect is found by the division, identifying information
9 shall be retained for five years from the conclusion of the investigation. For all other investigation
10 reports where insufficient evidence of abuse or neglect is found by the division, identifying
11 information shall be retained for two years from the conclusion of the investigation. Such reports
12 shall include any exculpatory evidence known by the division, including exculpatory evidence
13 obtained after the closing of the case. At the end of such time period, the identifying information
14 shall be removed from the records of the division and destroyed;

15 (3) For reports where the division uses the family assessment and services approach,
16 identifying information shall be retained by the division;

17 (4) For reports in which the division is unable to locate the child alleged to have been abused
18 or neglected, identifying information shall be retained for ten years from the date of the report and
19 then shall be removed from the records of the division.

20 2. Within ninety days, or within one hundred twenty days in cases involving sexual abuse, or
21 until the division's investigation is complete in cases involving a child fatality or near-fatality, after
22 receipt of a report of abuse or neglect that is investigated, the alleged perpetrator named in the report
23 and the parents of the child named in the report, if the alleged perpetrator is not a parent, shall be
24 notified in writing of any determination made by the division based on the investigation. The notice
25 shall advise either:

26 (1) That the division has determined by a probable cause finding prior to August 28, 2004, or
27 by a preponderance of the evidence after August 28, 2004, that abuse or neglect exists and that the
28 division shall retain all identifying information regarding the abuse or neglect; that such information
29 shall remain confidential and will not be released except to law enforcement agencies, prosecuting or
30 circuit attorneys, or as provided in section 210.150; that the alleged perpetrator has sixty days from
31 the date of receipt of the notice to seek reversal of the division's determination through a review by
32 the child abuse and neglect review board as provided in subsection 4 of this section; or

33 (2) That the division has not made a probable cause finding or determined by a
34 preponderance of the evidence that abuse or neglect exists.

35 3. The children's division may reopen a case for review at the request of the alleged
36 perpetrator, the alleged victim, or the office of the child advocate if new, specific, and credible
37 evidence is obtained that the division's decision was based on fraud or misrepresentation of material
38 facts relevant to the division's decision and there is credible evidence that absent such fraud or
39 misrepresentation the division's decision would have been different. If the alleged victim is under
40 the age of eighteen, the request for review may be made by the alleged victim's parent, legal
41 custodian, or legal guardian. All requests to reopen an investigation for review shall be made within
42 a reasonable time and not more than one year after the children's division made its decision. The
43 division shall not reopen a case for review based on any information which the person requesting the
44 review knew, should have known, or could by the exercise of reasonable care have known before the
45 date of the division's final decision in the case, unless the person requesting the review shows by a
46 preponderance of the evidence that he or she could not have provided such information to the
47 division before the date of the division's final decision in the case. Any person, other than the office
48 of the child advocate, who makes a request to reopen a case for review based on facts which the

1 person knows to be false or misleading or who acts in bad faith or with the intent to harass the
2 alleged victim or perpetrator shall not have immunity from any liability, civil or criminal, for
3 providing the information and requesting that the division reopen the investigation. Any person who
4 makes a request to reopen an investigation based on facts which the person knows to be false shall be
5 guilty of a class A misdemeanor. The children's division shall not reopen an investigation under any
6 circumstances while the case is pending before a court of this state nor when a court has entered a
7 final judgment after de novo judicial review pursuant to this section.

8 4. Any person named in an investigation as a perpetrator who is aggrieved by a
9 determination of abuse or neglect by the division as provided in this section may seek an
10 administrative review by the child abuse and neglect review board pursuant to the provisions of
11 section 210.153. Such request for review shall be made within sixty days of notification of the
12 division's decision under this section. In those cases where criminal charges arising out of facts of
13 the investigation are pending, the request for review shall be made within sixty days from the court's
14 final disposition or dismissal of the charges.

15 5. In any such action for administrative review, the child abuse and neglect review board
16 shall sustain the division's determination if such determination was supported by evidence of
17 probable cause prior to August 28, 2004, or is supported by a preponderance of the evidence after
18 August 28, 2004, and is not against the weight of such evidence. The child abuse and neglect review
19 board hearing shall be closed to all persons except the parties, their attorneys and those persons
20 providing testimony on behalf of the parties.

21 6. If the alleged perpetrator is aggrieved by the decision of the child abuse and neglect
22 review board, the alleged perpetrator may seek de novo judicial review in the circuit court in the
23 county in which the alleged perpetrator resides and in circuits with split venue, in the venue in which
24 the alleged perpetrator resides, or in Cole County. If the alleged perpetrator is not a resident of the
25 state, proper venue shall be in Cole County. The case may be assigned to the family court division
26 where such a division has been established. The request for a judicial review shall be made within
27 sixty days of notification of the decision of the child abuse and neglect review board decision. In
28 reviewing such decisions, the circuit court shall provide the alleged perpetrator the opportunity to
29 appear and present testimony. The alleged perpetrator may subpoena any witnesses except the
30 alleged victim or the reporter. However, the circuit court shall have the discretion to allow the
31 parties to submit the case upon a stipulated record.

32 7. In any such action for administrative review, the child abuse and neglect review board
33 shall notify the child or the parent, guardian or legal representative of the child that a review has
34 been requested.

35 210.183. 1. At the time of the initial investigation of a report of child abuse or neglect, the
36 division employee conducting the investigation shall provide the alleged perpetrator with a written
37 description of the investigation process. Such written notice shall be given substantially in the
38 following form:

39 "The investigation is being undertaken by the Children's Division pursuant to the
40 requirements of chapter 210 of the Revised Missouri Statutes in response to a report of child abuse or
41 neglect.

42 The identity of the person who reported the incident of abuse or neglect is confidential and
43 may not even be known to the Division since the report could have been made anonymously.

44 This investigation is required by law to be conducted in order to enable the Children's
45 Division to identify incidents of abuse or neglect in order to provide protective or preventive social
46 services to families who are in need of such services.

47 The division shall make every reasonable attempt to complete the investigation within [thirty
48 days, except if a child involved in the pending investigation dies the investigation shall remain open

until the division's investigation surrounding the death is completed.] forty-five days, except for good cause which shall be documented, otherwise, within ninety days, or one hundred and twenty days after receipt of a report of abuse or neglect involving sexual abuse, or when the division's investigation is complete in cases involving a child fatality or near-fatality, you will receive a letter from the Division which will inform you of one of the following:

- (1) That the Division has found insufficient evidence of abuse or neglect; or
- (2) That there appears to be by a preponderance of the evidence reason to suspect the existence of child abuse or neglect in the judgment of the Division and that the Division will contact the family to offer social services.

If the Division finds by a preponderance of the evidence reason to believe child abuse or neglect has occurred or the case is substantiated by court adjudication, a record of the report and information gathered during the investigation will remain on file with the Division.

If you disagree with the determination of the Division and feel that there is insufficient reason to believe by a preponderance of the evidence that abuse or neglect has occurred, you have a right to request an administrative review at which time you may hire an attorney to represent you. If you request an administrative review on the issue, you will be notified of the date and time of your administrative review hearing by the child abuse and neglect review board. If the Division's decision is reversed by the child abuse and neglect review board, the Division records concerning the report and investigation will be updated to reflect such finding. If the child abuse and neglect review board upholds the Division's decision, an appeal may be filed in circuit court within sixty days of the child abuse and neglect review board's decision."

2. If the division uses the family assessment approach, the division shall at the time of the initial contact provide the parent of the child with the following information:

- (1) The purpose of the contact with the family;
- (2) The name of the person responding and his or her office telephone number;
- (3) The assessment process to be followed during the division's intervention with the family including the possible services available and expectations of the family."; and

Further amend said bill, Page 6, Section 211.447, Line 186, by inserting after all of said section and line the following:

"334.950. 1. As used in this section, the following terms shall mean:

(1) "Child abuse medical resource centers", medical institutions affiliated with accredited children's hospitals or recognized institutions of higher education with accredited medical school programs that provide training, support, mentoring, and peer review to SAFE CARE providers in Missouri;

(2) "SAFE CARE provider", a physician, advanced practice nurse, or physician's assistant licensed in this state who provides medical diagnosis and treatment to children suspected of being victims of abuse and who receives:

(a) Missouri-based initial intensive training regarding child maltreatment from the SAFE CARE network;

(b) Ongoing update training on child maltreatment from the SAFE CARE network;

(c) Peer review and new provider mentoring regarding the forensic evaluation of children suspected of being victims of abuse from the SAFE CARE network;

(3) "Sexual assault forensic examination child abuse resource education network" or "SAFE CARE network", a network of SAFE CARE providers and child abuse medical resource centers that collaborate to provide forensic evaluations, medical training, support, mentoring, and peer review for SAFE CARE providers for the medical evaluation of child abuse victims in this state to improve

1 outcomes for children who are victims of or at risk for child maltreatment by enhancing the skills
2 and role of the medical provider in a multidisciplinary context.

3 2. Child abuse medical resource centers may collaborate directly or through the use of
4 technology with SAFE CARE providers to promote improved services to children who are suspected
5 victims of abuse that will need to have a forensic medical evaluation conducted by providing
6 specialized training for forensic medical evaluations for children conducted in a hospital, child
7 advocacy center, or by a private health care professional without the need for a collaborative
8 agreement between the child abuse medical resource center and a SAFE CARE provider.

9 3. SAFE CARE providers who are a part of the SAFE CARE network in Missouri may
10 collaborate directly or through the use of technology with other SAFE CARE providers and child
11 abuse medical resource centers to promote improved services to children who are suspected victims
12 of abuse that will need to have a forensic medical evaluation conducted by providing specialized
13 training for forensic medical evaluations for children conducted in a hospital, child advocacy center,
14 or by a private health care professional without the need for a collaborative agreement between the
15 child abuse medical resource center and a SAFE CARE provider.

16 4. The SAFE CARE network shall develop recommendations concerning medically based
17 screening processes and forensic evidence collection for children who may be in need of an
18 emergency examination following an alleged sexual assault. Such recommendations shall be
19 provided to the SAFE CARE providers, child advocacy centers, hospitals and licensed practitioners
20 that provide emergency examinations for children suspected of being victims of abuse.

21 5. The department of public safety shall establish rules and make payments to SAFE CARE
22 providers, out of appropriations made for that purpose, who provide forensic examinations of
23 persons under eighteen years of age who are alleged victims of physical abuse."; and
24

25 Further amend said bill by amending the title, enacting clause, and intersectional references
26 accordingly.