

HB 432 -- BIRTH MATCH PROGRAM (Kelly (141))

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Standing Committee on Children and Families

This bill establishes the "Birth Match Program".

The bill orders data sharing between the Children's Division of the Departments of Social Services and the State Registrar's office to compare birth reports with reports of parents who have been convicted of certain crimes or have a termination of parental rights in order to ensure the safety of the child and provide services, if needed. The State Registrar shall provide to the Division the birth record information of children born to such individuals. The Division shall verify the identity of the parent and if that identity is verified, the Division shall provide the appropriate local office with information regarding the birth of the child. Appropriate local Division personnel shall initiate contact with the family, or make a good faith effort to do so, to determine if the parent or family has a need for services and provide such voluntary and time-limited services as appropriate. The Division shall document the results of such contact and services provided, if any, in the Division's information system. Identifying information and records created and exchanged under this bill shall be closed records and shall only be used as specified in the bill.