



Legislative Council Staff

Research Note

Version: Final

Date: 6/12/2017

Bill Number

Senate Bill 17-028

Sponsors

Senator Gardner
Representative Nordberg

Short Title

**Healthy Families And Military
Preparedness Act**

Research Analyst

Elizabeth Haskell (x6264)

Status

This research note reflects the final version of the bill and becomes effective on August 9, 2017, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

Background

Under current law, county caseworkers are not required to track information about the military affiliation of persons being investigated in connection with a child welfare case, nor are they required to share information with the command authority of military installations about child welfare investigations involving military personnel and family members assigned to that installation.

Senate Action

Senate Health and Human Services Committee (January 26, 2017). At the hearing, representatives of the United States Department of Defense, the Kempe Foundation, and the El Paso County Department of Human Services testified in support of the bill. The committee adopted amendments L.001, L.002, and L.003, and referred the bill, as amended, to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Amendment L.001 clarified that county departments of human services must notify military authorities of reported abuse or neglect when the report involves a service member, or a spouse or significant other or a family member who resides in the family home. Amendment L.002 was a technical amendment. Amendment L.003 clarified that county departments of human services must notify the appropriate military authorities only when a report of child abuse or neglect is assigned for assessment.

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Senate Appropriations Committee (April 6, 2017). The committee adopted amendment J.001 and referred the bill, as amended, to the Senate Committee of the Whole. The amendment adjusts the bill's appropriations clause.

Senate second reading (April 7, 2017). The Senate adopted the Senate Health and Human Services Committee and the Appropriations Committee reports and passed the bill on second reading with no amendments.

Senate third reading (April 10, 2017). The Senate passed the bill on third reading with no amendments.

House Action

House Public Health Care and Human Services Committee (April 25, 2017). At the hearing, representatives of the United States Department of Defense, the Kempe Foundation, and the Jefferson County Department of Human Services testified in support of the bill. The committee referred the bill to the House Appropriations Committee with no amendments.

House Appropriations Committee (May 5, 2017). The committee referred the bill to the House Committee of the Whole with no amendments.

House second reading (May 5, 2017). The House adopted amendment No. 1 and passed the bill on second reading as amended. Amendment No. 1 clarified that the Department of Human Services may establish rules, if necessary, to implement the provisions of the bill.

House third reading (May 8, 2017). The House passed the bill on third reading with no amendments.