

HB 1427 -- CHILD ABUSE REPORT IMMUNITY

SPONSOR: Kraus

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Special Committee on Family Services by a vote of 9 to 0.

This bill gives immunity from any civil or criminal liability to any person who reports a case of suspected child abuse, neglect, or assault to the proper authorities including liability for any action taken by the proper institution, facility, or agency.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2009, FY 2010, and FY 2011.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill protects individuals who make legitimate child abuse reports to the Children's Division Hotline from being sued for civil or criminal damages. The bill does not provide any protections for people who make malicious hotline calls.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Kraus.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.