

CHILD PROTECTION LAW (EXCERPT)
Act 238 of 1975

722.623 Individual required to report child abuse or neglect; written report; transmitting report to county department; copies to prosecuting attorney and probate court; conditions requiring transmission of report to law enforcement agency; pregnancy of or venereal disease in child less than 12 years of age; exposure to or contact with methamphetamine production.

Sec. 3.

(1) An individual is required to report under this act as follows:

- (a) A physician, dentist, physician's assistant, registered dental hygienist, medical examiner, nurse, person licensed to provide emergency medical care, audiologist, psychologist, marriage and family therapist, licensed professional counselor, social worker, licensed master's social worker, licensed bachelor's social worker, registered social service technician, social service technician, a person employed in a professional capacity in any office of the friend of the court, school administrator, school counselor or teacher, law enforcement officer, member of the clergy, or regulated child care provider who has reasonable cause to suspect child abuse or neglect shall make immediately, by telephone or otherwise, an oral report, or cause an oral report to be made, of the suspected child abuse or neglect to the department. Within 72 hours after making the oral report, the reporting person shall file a written report as required in this act. If the reporting person is a member of the staff of a hospital, agency, or school, the reporting person shall notify the person in charge of the hospital, agency, or school of his or her finding and that the report has been made, and shall make a copy of the written report available to the person in charge. A notification to the person in charge of a hospital, agency, or school does not relieve the member of the staff of the hospital, agency, or school of the obligation of reporting to the department as required by this section. One report from a hospital, agency, or school is adequate to meet the reporting requirement. A member of the staff of a hospital, agency, or school shall not be dismissed or otherwise penalized for making a report required by this act or for cooperating in an investigation.
- (b) A department employee who is 1 of the following and has reasonable cause to suspect child abuse or neglect shall make a report of suspected child abuse or neglect to the department in the same manner as required under subdivision (a):
 - (i) Eligibility specialist.
 - (ii) Family independence manager.
 - (iii) Family independence specialist.
 - (iv) Social services specialist.
 - (v) Social work specialist.
 - (vi) Social work specialist manager.
 - (vii) Welfare services specialist.
- (c) Any employee of an organization or entity that, as a result of federal funding statutes, regulations, or contracts, would be prohibited from reporting in the absence of a state mandate or court order. A person required to report under this subdivision shall report in the same manner as required under subdivision (a).

- (2) The written report shall contain the name of the child and a description of the abuse or neglect. If possible, the report shall contain the names and addresses of the child's parents, the child's guardian, the persons with whom the child resides, and the child's age. The report shall contain other information available to the reporting person that might establish the cause of the abuse or neglect, and the manner in which the abuse or neglect occurred.
- (3) The department shall inform the reporting person of the required contents of the written report at the time the oral report is made by the reporting person.
- (4) The written report required in this section shall be mailed or otherwise transmitted to the county department of the county in which the child suspected of being abused or neglected is found.

- (5) Upon receipt of a written report of suspected child abuse or neglect, the department may provide copies to the prosecuting attorney and the probate court of the counties in which the child suspected of being abused or neglected resides and is found.
- (6) If an allegation, written report, or subsequent investigation of suspected child abuse or child neglect indicates a violation of sections 136b and 145c, sections 520b to 520g of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.136b, 750.145c, and 750.520b to 750.520g, or section 7401c of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7401c, involving methamphetamine has occurred, or if the allegation, written report, or subsequent investigation indicates that the suspected child abuse or child neglect was committed by an individual who is not a person responsible for the child's health or welfare, including, but not limited to, a member of the clergy, a teacher, or a teacher's aide, the department shall transmit a copy of the allegation or written report and the results of any investigation to a law enforcement agency in the county in which the incident occurred. If an allegation, written report, or subsequent investigation indicates that the individual who committed the suspected abuse or neglect is a child care provider and the department believes that the report has basis in fact, the department shall, within 24 hours of completion, transmit a copy of the written report or the results of the investigation to the child care regulatory agency with authority over the child care provider's child care organization or adult foster care location authorized to care for a child.
- (7) If a local law enforcement agency receives an allegation or written report of suspected child abuse or child neglect or discovers evidence of or receives a report of an individual allowing a child to be exposed to or to have contact with methamphetamine production, and the allegation, written report, or subsequent investigation indicates that the child abuse or child neglect or allowing a child to be exposed to or to have contact with methamphetamine production, was committed by a person responsible for the child's health or welfare, the local law enforcement agency shall refer the allegation or provide a copy of the written report and the results of any investigation to the county department of the county in which the abused or neglected child is found, as required by subsection (1)(a). If an allegation, written report, or subsequent investigation indicates that the individual who committed the suspected abuse or neglect or allowed a child to be exposed to or to have contact with methamphetamine production, is a child care provider and the local law enforcement agency believes that the report has basis in fact, the local law enforcement agency shall transmit a copy of the written report or the results of the investigation to the child care regulatory agency with authority over the child care provider's child care organization or adult foster care location authorized to care for a child. Nothing in this subsection or subsection (1) shall be construed to relieve the department of its responsibilities to investigate reports of suspected child abuse or child neglect under this act.
- (8) For purposes of this act, the pregnancy of a child less than 12 years of age or the presence of a venereal disease in a child who is over 1 month of age but less than 12 years of age is reasonable cause to suspect child abuse and neglect have occurred.
- (9) In conducting an investigation of child abuse or child neglect, if the department suspects that a child has been exposed to or has had contact with methamphetamine production, the department shall immediately contact the law enforcement agency in the county in which the incident occurred.

History: 1975, Act 238, Eff. Oct. 1, 1975;— Am. 1978, Act 252, Eff. Mar. 30, 1979;— Am. 1978, Act 573, Eff. Mar. 30, 1979;— Am. 1980, Act 511, Imd. Eff. Jan. 26, 1981;— Am. 1984, Act 418, Eff. Mar. 29, 1985;— Am. 1988, Act 372, Eff. Mar. 30, 1989;— Am. 1994, Act 177, Imd. Eff. June 20, 1994;— Am. 2002, Act 10, Imd. Eff. Feb. 14, 2002;— Am. 2002, Act 661, Imd. Eff. Dec. 23, 2002;— Am. 2002, Act 693, Eff. Mar. 1, 2003;— Am. 2006, Act 264, Imd. Eff. July 6, 2006;— Am. 2006, Act 583, Imd. Eff. Jan. 3, 2007;— Am. 2008, Act 300, Imd. Eff. Oct. 8, 2008;— Am. 2008, Act 510, Imd. Eff. Jan. 13, 2009.