

HOUSE BILL No. 1318

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 31-33-8-3.

Synopsis: Physical examinations in CHINS investigations. Provides that if the department of child services (department) receives a report of known or suspected abuse of a child who is less than five years of age, a department caseworker: (1) shall physically examine the child's head, face, arms, legs, chest, and back for bruises or contusions; and (2) if the caseworker finds evidence of abuse, shall: (A) immediately take the child into custody; (B) cause color photographs to be taken of the areas of trauma visible on the child, unless a law enforcement agency is obligated to do so; (C) cause a medical examination of the child to be performed; and (D) if medically indicated, cause a radiological examination of the child to be performed. Provides that if the department receives a report of known or suspected abuse of a child who is not less than five years of age, the department may have a: (1) health screening; or (2) medical examination; of the child conducted. Provides that the department is responsible for the cost of the health screening or medical examination.

Effective: July 1, 2026.

Jackson C

January 6, 2026, read first time and referred to Committee on Family, Children and Human Affairs.



Second Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2026)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1318

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning family law and juvenile law.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 31-33-8-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.131-2009,
2 SECTION 44, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) ~~Except as provided in subsection (b),~~ **If a**
4 **child who is the subject of a report under this chapter is less than**
5 **five (5) years of age, a department caseworker:**

6 (1) **shall physically examine the child's head, face, arms, legs,**
7 **chest, and back for bruises or contusions; and**

8 (2) **if the caseworker finds evidence of abuse under**
9 **subdivision (1), shall:**

10 (A) **immediately take the child into custody under**
11 **IC 31-34-2-3;**

12 (B) **except as provided in subsection (c), cause color**
13 **photographs to be taken of the areas of trauma visible on**
14 **the child;**

15 (C) **cause a medical examination of the child to be**
16 **performed; and**

17 (D) **if medically indicated, cause a radiological examination**



1 **of the child to be performed.**
2 **(b) If a child who is the subject of a report under this chapter is**
3 **not less than five (5) years of age, the department:**
4 **(1) shall, ~~(+)~~ except as provided in subsection (c), cause color**
5 **photographs to be taken of the areas of trauma visible on a the**
6 **child; who is subject to a report;**
7 **(2) may cause a:**
8 **(A) health screening; or**
9 **(B) medical examination;**
10 **of the child to be performed; and**
11 ~~(2)~~ **(3) if medically indicated, shall cause a radiological**
12 **examination of the child to be performed.**
13 ~~(b)~~ **(c) If the law enforcement agency participates in the assessment,**
14 **the law enforcement agency shall cause the color photographs to be**
15 **taken as provided by this section.**
16 ~~(c)~~ **(d) The department shall reimburse the expenses of: the**
17 **(1) photographs under subsection (a)(2)(B) or (b)(1);**
18 **(2) a health screening or medical examination under**
19 **subsection (a)(2)(C) or (b)(2); and**
20 **(3) x-rays under subsection (a)(2)(D) or (b)(3).**

