

2023 SESSION

INTRODUCED

22102300D

HOUSE BILL NO. 327

Offered January 12, 2022

Prefiled January 11, 2022

A BILL directing the Department of Social Services to report certain information regarding child protective services.

Patron—Freitas

Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. § 1. That the Department of Social Services (the Department) shall identify and report the following data for the date range of January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2021:

1. The number of reports of child abuse or neglect submitted in the Commonwealth;

2. The number of reports of child abuse or neglect to which a local department of social services (local department) responded by conducting an investigation pursuant to § 63.2-1505 of the Code of Virginia or a family assessment pursuant to § 63.2-1506 of the Code of Virginia;

3. In cases in which an investigation or a family assessment was conducted, the average number of days that passed between the initiation of such investigation or family assessment and the receipt of the initial report of child abuse or neglect;

4. The average number of investigations or family assessments to which a single local department employee is assigned; and

5. In cases in which a child was removed from his home and committed to the custody of a local board of social services or licensed child-placing agency, the average length of time the child remained in foster care and the number of such children who ultimately returned home, categorized by age, region, and reason for removal.

The Department shall submit to the Governor and the General Assembly an executive summary and a report of its findings for publication as a House or Senate document. The executive summary and report shall be submitted as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents and reports no later than October 1, 2022, and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.

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