2020 Missouri Legislative Wrap-Up: Child Safety and Wellbeing

Jessica Seitz, Director of Public Policy
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2020 Legislative Session

- Child Protection Omnibus (HB 1414)
- Sexual Assault Omnibus (SB 569)
- Other Legislation of Interest

"Those that respect the law and love sausage should watch neither being made.

- Mark Twain"
2020 CHILD PROTECTION OMNIBUS
(SS SCS HCS HB 1414)
2020 OMNIBUS CHILD PROTECTION OMNIBUS:
Child Abuse & Neglect Provisions

• Provides CAC employees acting in good faith with immunity from civil liability for participation in the investigation process and services provided (SB 924-Riddle)

• Creates temporary alternative placement agreements (TAPAs), a mechanism to provide services to parents and family placement to ensure safety of children who are not brought into foster care (HB 2216-Coleman)

• Requires completion of a risk assessment within 24 hours of a report of child abuse or neglect (HB 1414-Solon)

• Child protection for military families (SB 718-White/HB 1316-Sommer)
2020 CHILD PROTECTION OMNIBUS:

- Response and evaluation team for foster care case management
- Foster parent access to medical records
- Foster parents in legal proceedings
- Foster parents not supervising visits
- Appearance of children in court

*Note:* Final legislation did not include SB 623, modifies provisions for guardians ad litem (Libla)
Sexual Assault Omnibus (SB 569)

- Creates a web-based rape kit tracking system, a statewide storage facility of unreported kits and makes all records in the system confidential

- Sexual Assault Survivors’ Bill of Rights (SB 812-Sater)

- Justice for Survivors Act (SB 951-Schupp)-SANE telehealth system
LOOKING FORWARD

• **HB 2216 (Coleman)** child protection omnibus stalled:
  – Safe Baby Courts
  – Child abuse investigations in schools
  – Birth Match

• Insurance companies’ opposition stalls HB 1411 (Solon) to **remove statute of limitations for childhood sexual abuse civil suits**

• Seclusion and restraint policies in public schools
THANK YOU

Jessica Seitz
Missouri KidsFirst
(573) 415-6228
jessicaseitz@missourikidsfirst.org

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