HOUSE BILL 572

AN ACT establishing a commission to study public-private partnerships to fund medical care for abused and neglected children.


COMMITTEE: Children and Family Law

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a commission to study public-private partnerships to fund medical treatment of abused and neglected children.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in **bold italics**. Matter removed from current law appears [in brackets and struckthrough]. Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Fourteen

AN ACT establishing a commission to study public-private partnerships to fund medical care for abused and neglected children.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

80:1 Statement of Purpose.
    I. Thousands of New Hampshire’s children suffer maltreatment annually and in such cases, the state is mandated to address the issues of child protection, family preservation and criminal prosecution, all of which rely on accurate medical care to correctly identify and address abuse and neglect.
    II. However, access to that medical care across the state is inconsistent and this makes it difficult for the state to fulfill its responsibilities.
    III. The state has an interest in assuring that all children have access to that care and that state agencies have the medical expertise necessary to address child maltreatment.

80:2 New Subdivision; Commission to Study Public-Private Partnerships to Fund Medical Care for Abused and Neglected Children. Amend RSA 169-C by inserting after section 39-i the following new subdivision:

Commission to Study Public-Private Partnerships to Fund Medical Care for Abused and Neglected Children

I. There is established a commission to study public-private partnerships to fund medical care for abused and neglected children.
    II. The members of the commission shall be as follows:
        (a) Two members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.
        (b) One member of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.
        (c) The director of the division for children, youth, and families, in the department of health and human services, or designee.
        (d) The director of the office of Medicaid business and policy in the department of health and human services, or designee.
        (e) The commissioner of the insurance department, or designee.
        (f) The attorney general, or designee.
        (g) The president of the New Hampshire Hospital Association, or designee.
(h) A representative of the New Hampshire Network of Child Advocacy Centers, appointed by that organization.

(i) A physician or nurse practitioner, appointed by the New Hampshire Pediatric Society.

(j) A representative of the New Hampshire Association of Chiefs of Police, appointed by the association.

(k) A school nurse or counselor, appointed by the commissioner of the department of education.

(l) A representative of the New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, appointed by the coalition.

(m) A representative of the private insurance industry, appointed by the New Hampshire Association of Domestic Insurance Companies.

III. Members of the commission shall serve without compensation, except that legislative members of the commission shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when attending to the duties of the commission.

IV. The commission shall determine and recommend a stable funding mechanism, including but not limited to a private-public partnership involving medical insurers, local hospitals, state funding, and enhanced Medicaid reimbursement, to pay for medical evaluations by providers with training and experience in child abuse and neglect in cases raising the concern of possible maltreatment.

V. The members of the commission shall elect a chairperson from among the members. The first meeting of the commission shall be called by the member appointed by the New Hampshire Pediatric Society. The first meeting of the commission shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. Five members of the commission shall constitute a quorum.

VI. The commission shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed legislation to the speaker of the house of representatives, the president of the senate, the house clerk, the senate clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before December 1, 2014.

80:3 Repeal. RSA 169-C:39-j, relative to the commission to study public-private partnerships to fund medical care for abused and neglected children, is repealed.

80:4 Effective Date.

I. Section 3 of this act shall take effect January 1, 2015.

II. The remainder of this act shall take effect upon its passage.

Approved: June 4, 2014

Effective Date: I. Section 3 shall take effect January 1, 2015.

II. Remainder shall take effect June 4, 2014.