

1 AN ACT concerning courts.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Children and Family Services Act is amended
5 by adding Section 7.8 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 505/7.8 new)

7 Sec. 7.8. Home safety checklist; aftercare services;
8 immunization checks.

9 (a) As used in this Section, "purchase of service agency"
10 means any entity that contracts with the Department to provide
11 services that are consistent with the purposes of this Act.

12 (b) Whenever a child is placed in the custody or
13 guardianship of the Department or a child is returned to the
14 custody of a parent or guardian and the court retains
15 jurisdiction of the case, the Department must ensure that the
16 child is up to date on his or her well-child visits, including
17 age-appropriate immunizations, or that there is a documented
18 religious or medical reason the child did not receive the
19 immunizations.

20 (c) Whenever a child has been placed in foster or
21 substitute care by court order and the court later determines
22 that the child can return to the custody of his or her parent
23 or guardian, the Department must complete, prior to the child's

1 discharge from foster or substitute care, a home safety
2 checklist to ensure that the conditions of the child's home are
3 sufficient to ensure the child's safety and well-being, as
4 defined in Department rules and procedures. At a minimum, the
5 home safety checklist shall be completed within 24 hours prior
6 to the child's return home and completed again or recertified
7 in the absence of any environmental barriers or hazards within
8 5 working days after a child is returned home and every month
9 thereafter until the child's case is closed pursuant to the
10 Juvenile Court Act of 1987. The home safety checklist shall
11 include a certification that there are no environmental
12 barriers or hazards to prevent returning the child home.

13 (d) When a court determines that a child should return to
14 the custody or guardianship of a parent or guardian, any
15 aftercare services provided to the child and the child's family
16 by the Department or a purchase of service agency shall
17 commence on the date upon which the child is returned to the
18 custody or guardianship of his or her parent or guardian.
19 However, if multiple children are returned at different times
20 to the custody or guardianship of the parent or guardian,
21 aftercare services shall commence on the date upon which the
22 last child returns home.

23 (e) One year after the effective date of this amendatory
24 Act of the 101st General Assembly, the Auditor General shall
25 commence a performance audit of the Department of Children and
26 Family Services to determine whether the Department is meeting

1 the requirements of this Section. Within 2 years after the
2 audit's release, the Auditor General shall commence a follow-up
3 performance audit to determine whether the Department has
4 implemented the recommendations contained in the initial
5 performance audit. Upon completion of each audit, the Auditor
6 General shall report its findings to the General Assembly. The
7 Auditor General's reports shall include any issues or
8 deficiencies and recommendations. The audits required by this
9 Section shall be in accordance with and subject to the Illinois
10 State Auditing Act.

11 Section 10. The Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act is
12 amended by adding Section 7.01 as follows:

13 (325 ILCS 5/7.01 new)

14 Sec. 7.01. Safety assessments for reports made by mandated
15 reporters.

16 (a) When a report is made by a mandated reporter to the
17 statewide toll-free telephone number established under Section
18 7.6 of this Act and there is a prior indicated report of abuse
19 or neglect and a prior open service case involving any member
20 of the household, the Department must, at a minimum, accept the
21 report as a child welfare services referral. If the family
22 refuses to cooperate or refuses access to the home or children,
23 then a child protective services investigation shall be
24 initiated if the facts otherwise meet the criteria to accept a

1 report.

2 As used in this Section, "child welfare services referral"
3 means an assessment of the family for service needs and linkage
4 to available local community resources for the purpose of
5 preventing or remedying or assisting in the solution of
6 problems which may result in the neglect, abuse, exploitation,
7 or delinquency of children, and as further defined in
8 Department rules and procedures.

9 As used in this Section, "prior open service case" means a
10 case in which the Department has provided services to the
11 family either directly or through a purchase of service agency.

12 (b) One year after the effective date of this amendatory
13 Act of the 101st General Assembly, the Auditor General shall
14 commence a performance audit of the Department of Children and
15 Family Services to determine whether the Department is meeting
16 the requirements of this Section. Within 2 years after the
17 audit's release, the Auditor General shall commence a follow-up
18 performance audit to determine whether the Department has
19 implemented the recommendations contained in the initial
20 performance audit. Upon completion of each audit, the Auditor
21 General shall report its findings to the General Assembly. The
22 Auditor General's reports shall include any issues or
23 deficiencies and recommendations. The audits required by this
24 Section shall be in accordance with and subject to the Illinois
25 State Auditing Act.