



526162

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/25/2021	.	
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The Committee on Rules (Book) recommended the following:

1 **Senate Substitute for Amendment (335142) (with title**
2 **amendment)**

3
4 Delete lines 508 - 547

5 and insert:

6 Section 3. Present subsections (3) through (11) of section
7 39.2015, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (4)
8 through (12), respectively, a new subsection (3) is added to
9 that section, and subsection (1) and present subsections (3) and
10 (4) of that section are amended, to read:

11 39.2015 Critical incident rapid response team.—



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12 (1) As part of the department's quality assurance program,
13 the department shall provide an immediate multiagency
14 investigation of certain child deaths or other serious
15 incidents, including, but not limited to, allegations of sexual
16 abuse of a child as described in this chapter. The purpose of
17 such investigation is to identify root causes and rapidly
18 determine the need to change policies and practices related to
19 child protection and child welfare.

20 (3) An immediate onsite investigation conducted by a
21 critical incident rapid response team is required for all
22 reports received by the department containing allegations of
23 sexual abuse of a child as described in this chapter who is
24 currently placed in out-of-home care if the child was the
25 subject of a verified report of suspected abuse or neglect
26 during the previous 6 months. Only one team shall be deployed
27 for an allegation of sexual abuse that is based on the same act,
28 criminal episode, or transaction regardless of the number of
29 reports that are received by the department.

30 (4) ~~(3)~~ Each investigation shall be conducted by a
31 multiagency team of at least five professionals with expertise
32 in child protection, child welfare, and organizational
33 management. The team may consist of employees of the department,
34 community-based care lead agencies, Children's Medical Services,
35 and community-based care provider organizations; faculty from
36 the institute consisting of public and private universities
37 offering degrees in social work established pursuant to s.
38 1004.615; or any other person with the required expertise. The
39 team shall include, at a minimum, a Child Protection Team
40 medical director, a representative from a child advocacy center



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41 pursuant to s. 39.3035 who has specialized training in sexual
42 abuse, or a combination of such specialists if deemed
43 appropriate. With respect to investigations conducted under this
44 section related to allegations of child sexual abuse, the Child
45 Protection Team medical director may designate a member of the
46 Child Protection Team to participate in the investigation as his
47 or her designee. The majority of the team must reside in
48 judicial circuits outside the location of the incident. The
49 secretary shall appoint a team leader for each group assigned to
50 an investigation. Notwithstanding subsections (2) and (3), at
51 the discretion of the team leader, the team or select team
52 members may conduct all or part of the investigation remotely.

53 (5)~~(4)~~ An investigation shall be initiated as soon as
54 possible, but not later than 2 business days after the case is
55 reported to the department. A preliminary report on each case
56 shall be provided to the secretary no later than 30 days after
57 the investigation begins for the investigation of a child death,
58 and 45 days for the investigation of an allegation of child
59 sexual abuse.

60 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

61 And the title is amended as follows:

62 Delete line 27

63 and insert:

64 membership of multiagency teams; authorizing in
65 certain circumstances for the investigation to be
66 conducted remotely; specifying the time in which a
67 report must be provided to the secretary; amending s.
68 39.202,