

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to child protection; providing for children's advocacy center membership
1.3 on multidisciplinary child protection teams; amending Minnesota Statutes 2014,
1.4 section 626.558, subdivisions 1, 2, by adding a subdivision.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 626.558, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

1.7 Subdivision 1. **Establishment of team.** A county shall establish a multidisciplinary
1.8 child protection team that may include, but not be limited to, the director of the local
1.9 welfare agency or designees, the county attorney or designees, the county sheriff or
1.10 designees, representatives of health and education, representatives of mental health or
1.11 other appropriate human service or community-based agencies, and parent groups. As
1.12 used in this section, a "community-based agency" may include, but is not limited to,
1.13 schools, social service agencies, family service and mental health collaboratives, children's
1.14 advocacy centers, early childhood and family education programs, Head Start, or other
1.15 agencies serving children and families. A member of the team must be designated as the
1.16 lead person of the team responsible for the planning process to develop standards for its
1.17 activities with battered women's and domestic abuse programs and services.

1.18 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 626.558, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

1.19 Subd. 2. **Duties of team.** A multidisciplinary child protection team may provide
1.20 public and professional education, develop resources for prevention, intervention, and
1.21 treatment, and provide case consultation to the local welfare agency or other interested
1.22 community-based agencies. The community-based agencies may request case consultation
1.23 from the multidisciplinary child protection team regarding a child or family for whom the

2.1 community-based agency is providing services. As used in this section, "case consultation"
2.2 means a case review process in which recommendations are made concerning services to
2.3 be provided to the identified children and family. Case consultation may be performed by
2.4 a committee or subcommittee of members representing human services, including mental
2.5 health and chemical dependency; law enforcement, including probation and parole; the
2.6 county attorney; a children's advocacy center; health care; education; community-based
2.7 agencies and other necessary agencies; and persons directly involved in an individual case
2.8 as designated by other members performing case consultation.

2.9 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 626.558, is amended by adding a subdivision
2.10 to read:

2.11 Subd. 4. **Children's advocacy center; definition.** (a) For purposes of this section,
2.12 "children's advocacy center" means an organization, using a multidisciplinary team
2.13 approach, whose primary purpose is to provide children who have been the victims of
2.14 abuse and their nonoffending family members with:

- 2.15 (1) support and advocacy;
2.16 (2) specialized medical evaluation;
2.17 (3) trauma-focused mental health services; and
2.18 (4) forensic interviews.

2.19 (b) Children's advocacy centers provide multidisciplinary case review and the
2.20 tracking and monitoring of case progress.