LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 6

Introduced by Krist, 10.

Read first time January 05, 2017

Committee:

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the Office of the Inspector General of
- 2 Nebraska Child Welfare Act; to amend section 43-4325, Reissue
- 3 Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to provide for release of a summarized
- 4 final report as prescribed; to repeal the original section; and to
- 5 declare an emergency.
- 6 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 43-4325, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is

- 2 amended to read:
- 3 43-4325 (1) Reports of investigations conducted by the office shall
- 4 not be distributed beyond the entity that is the subject of the report
- 5 without the consent of the Inspector General.
- 6 (2) Except when a report is provided to a guardian ad litem or an
- 7 attorney in the juvenile court pursuant to subsection (2) of section
- 8 43-4327, the office shall redact confidential information before
- 9 distributing a report of an investigation. The office may disclose
- 10 confidential information to the chairperson of the Health and Human
- 11 Services Committee of the Legislature or the chairperson of the Judiciary
- 12 Committee of the Legislature when such disclosure is, in the judgment of
- 13 the Public Counsel, desirable to keep the chairperson informed of
- 14 important events, issues, and developments in the Nebraska child welfare
- 15 system.
- 16 (3) A summarized final report of an investigation may be publicly
- 17 released when the Inspector General, with the chairperson of the Health
- 18 and Human Services Committee of the Legislature or the chairperson of the
- 19 <u>Judiciary Committee of the Legislature, makes a determination that doing</u>
- 20 <u>so is in the public's best interest.</u>
- 21 (4) (3) Records and documents, regardless of physical form, that are
- 22 obtained or produced by the office in the course of an investigation are
- 23 not public records for purposes of sections 84-712 to 84-712.09. Reports
- 24 of investigations conducted by the office are not public records for
- 25 purposes of sections 84-712 to 84-712.09.
- 26 (5) (4) The office may withhold the identity of sources of
- 27 information to protect from retaliation any person who files a complaint
- 28 or provides information in good faith pursuant to the Office of Inspector
- 29 General of Nebraska Child Welfare Act.
- 30 Sec. 2. Original section 43-4325, Reissue Revised Statutes of
- 31 Nebraska, is repealed.

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1 Sec. 3. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when

2 passed and approved according to law.