

BILL SUMMARY
1st Session of the 55th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB1280
Version:	Committee Substitute
Request Number:	7006
Author:	Cockroft
Date:	3/10/2015
Impact:	\$0

Research Analysis

The CS for **HB 1280**:

- establishes a process for DHS to receive and investigate complaints against licensed child care providers;
- provides that an anonymous complaint will not result in an investigation and directs DHS to refer information in such a complaint or a complaint reporting events that occurred more than 6 weeks prior to child welfare services or law enforcement if the allegation describes a situation that poses a serious risk to a child;
- provides that, if the reporter chooses to be a confidential complainant only until the investigation is completed, DHS must disclose the complainant's name to the child care provider at the conclusion of the investigation;
- provides that, if the reporter chooses to be a confidential complainant indefinitely, the department cannot use the information to substantiate a violation of state law or agency rule unless it independently corroborates the information;
- requires DHS to keep an unsubstantiated complaint confidential and not enter it into the online database;
- declares that the department has no authority over operational policies of a child care facility or its educational curriculum; and
- limits to one the number of visits DHS can make to a child care facility to investigate a complaint unless there is serious risk of harm to a child.

Prepared By: Marcia Goff

Fiscal Analysis

The Committee Substitute for HB 1280 has no fiscal impact.

Prepared By: Stacy Johnson

Other Considerations

None.