

## HOUSE MESSAGE SUMMARY

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BILL: CS/CS/SB 0758  
SPONSOR: Judiciary Committee, Children and Families Committee, Wise  
SUBJECT: Child Protective Investigations  
PREPARED BY: Senate Committee on Children and Families  
DATE: May 4, 2005

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### **I. Amendments Contained in Message:**

**House Amendment 1 – 868739** (body with title)

### **II. Summary of Amendments Contained in Message:**

**House Amendment 1** adds employees of any school to the list of persons defined as “other person(s) responsible for a child’s welfare” in s. 39.01(47), F.S. Employees of private schools, but not public schools, are presently included in the definition. The effect of this change will be to require the Department of Children and Families to investigate reports of child abuse when the alleged perpetrator is a public school employee. Investigations of public school employees are currently conducted by law enforcement, by local school boards, and by the Professional Practices Council of the Department of Education.

This change is a major policy change which has not been considered by any Senate committee.

The fiscal impact of the amendment to the bill has been estimated by DCF to be \$5.03 million. This sum is not included in the General Appropriations Act. This analysis was coordinated with Health and Human Services Appropriations staff.