

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to mandatory reports of child abuse;  
 3           amending s. 39.201, F.S.; limiting the duty of an  
 4           officer or employee of a law enforcement agency to  
 5           provide notice to the Department of Children and  
 6           Families of reasonable cause to suspect child abuse  
 7           under certain circumstances; limiting the duty of the  
 8           Central Abuse Hotline to electronically transfer  
 9           certain calls and reports to the county sheriff's  
 10          office under certain circumstances; providing  
 11          applicability; providing an effective date.

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 13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 15           Section 1. Paragraph (h) is added to subsection (1) of  
 16           section 39.201, Florida Statutes, to read:

17           39.201 Mandatory reports of child abuse, abandonment, or  
 18           neglect; mandatory reports of death; central abuse hotline.—

19           (1)

20           (h) An officer or employee of a law enforcement agency is  
 21           not required to provide notice to the department of reasonable  
 22           cause to suspect child abuse by an adult other than a parent,  
 23           legal custodian, caregiver, or other person responsible for the  
 24           child's welfare when the incident under investigation by the law  
 25           enforcement agency was reported to law enforcement by the  
 26           Central Abuse Hotline through the electronic transfer of the  
 27           report or call. The department's Central Abuse Hotline is not  
 28           required to electronically transfer calls and reports received

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29 pursuant to paragraph (2) (b) to the county sheriff's office if  
30 the matter was initially reported to the department by the  
31 county sheriff's office or another law enforcement agency. This  
32 paragraph applies only when the information related to the  
33 alleged child abuse has been provided to the officer or employee  
34 of a law enforcement agency or Central Abuse Hotline employee in  
35 the course of carrying out his or her official duties.

36 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.