

By Senator Book

32-00523-21

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to child welfare; amending s. 39.01,  
3       F.S.; expanding the list of incidents or injuries that  
4       constitute harm to a child's health or welfare;  
5       amending s. 39.303, F.S.; expanding the types of  
6       reports which the Department of Children and Families  
7       must refer to Child Protection Teams; providing an  
8       effective date.

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

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12       Section 1. Paragraphs (m) and (n) are added to subsection  
13       (35) of section 39.01, Florida Statutes, to read:

14       39.01 Definitions.—When used in this chapter, unless the  
15       context otherwise requires:

16       (35) "Harm" to a child's health or welfare can occur when  
17       any person:

18       (m) Violates s. 316.613 or s. 316.614, resulting in the  
19       death of a child or the injury of a child which requires  
20       treatment at a medical facility, if substantiated by a licensed  
21       physician's opinion that the violation exacerbated the child's  
22       injuries or resulted in the child's death.

23       (n) Violates s. 316.6135, resulting in the death of a child  
24       or the injury of a child.

25       Section 2. Paragraphs (j), (k), and (l) are added to  
26       subsection (4) of section 39.303, Florida Statutes, to read:

27       39.303 Child Protection Teams and sexual abuse treatment  
28       programs; services; eligible cases.—

29       (4) The child abuse, abandonment, and neglect reports that

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30 must be referred by the department to Child Protection Teams of  
31 the Department of Health for an assessment and other appropriate  
32 available support services as set forth in subsection (3) must  
33 include cases involving:

34 (j) A child who was not properly restrained in a motor  
35 vehicle pursuant to s. 316.613 or s. 316.614 and the improper  
36 restraint exacerbated the child's injuries or resulted in the  
37 child's death.

38 (k) A child who was left unattended or unsupervised in a  
39 motor vehicle pursuant to s. 316.6135 and such action resulted  
40 in an injury to the child or in the child's death.

41 (l) Reports from emergency room physicians.

42 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.