



## 103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

HB3384

Introduced 2/17/2023, by Rep. Carol Ammons

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

20 ILCS 515/15  
20 ILCS 515/20

Amends the Child Death Review Team Act. Provides that members of the General Assembly shall serve on the Illinois Child Death Review Teams Executive Council and attend all Executive Council meetings. Provides that members of the General Assembly shall be permitted to attend all Executive meetings, meetings between the Director and the Executive Council, and Child Death Review regional team meetings. Provides that in addition to other specified purposes, a child death review team's purpose in conducting reviews of child deaths is to share with the General Assembly the specific recommendations the review team makes to the Director and the Inspector General of the Department of Children and Family Services concerning the prevention of child deaths due to abuse or neglect and the establishment of protocols for investigating child deaths.

LRB103 30352 KTG 56782 b

1 AN ACT concerning State government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Child Death Review Team Act is amended by  
5 changing Sections 15 and 20 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 515/15)

7 Sec. 15. Child death review teams; establishment.

8 (a) The Inspector General of the Department, in  
9 consultation and cooperation with the Executive Council, law  
10 enforcement, and other professionals who work in the field of  
11 investigating, treating, or preventing child abuse or neglect  
12 in that subregion, shall appoint members to a child death  
13 review team in each of the Department's administrative  
14 subregions of the State outside Cook County and at least one  
15 child death review team in Cook County. The members of a team  
16 shall be appointed for 2-year terms and shall be eligible for  
17 reappointment upon the expiration of the terms. The Inspector  
18 General of the Department must fill any vacancy in a team  
19 within 60 days after that vacancy occurs.

20 (b) Each child death review team shall consist of at least  
21 one member from each of the following categories:

22 (1) Pediatrician or other physician knowledgeable  
23 about child abuse and neglect.

- 1 (2) Representative of the Department.
- 2 (3) State's attorney or State's attorney's
- 3 representative.
- 4 (4) Representative of a local law enforcement agency.
- 5 (5) Psychologist or psychiatrist.
- 6 (6) Representative of a local health department.
- 7 (7) Representative of a school district or other
- 8 education or child care interests.
- 9 (8) Coroner or forensic pathologist.
- 10 (9) Representative of a child welfare agency or child
- 11 advocacy organization.
- 12 (10) Representative of a local hospital, trauma
- 13 center, or provider of emergency medical services.
- 14 (11) Representative of the Illinois State Police.
- 15 (12) Representative of the Department of Public
- 16 Health.

17 Each child death review team may make recommendations to  
18 the Inspector General of the Department concerning additional  
19 appointments. In the event of a disagreement, the Executive  
20 Council's decision shall control.

21 Each child death review team member must have demonstrated  
22 experience and an interest in investigating, treating, or  
23 preventing child abuse or neglect.

24 (c) Each child death review team shall select a  
25 chairperson and vice-chairperson from among its members. The  
26 chairperson shall also serve on the Illinois Child Death

1 Review Teams Executive Council. The vice-chairperson may also  
2 serve on the Illinois Child Death Review Teams Executive  
3 Council, but shall not have a vote on child death review team  
4 business unless the chairperson is unable to attend a meeting.

5 (d) The child death review teams shall be funded under a  
6 separate line item in the Department's annual budget.

7 (e) The Department shall provide at least one full-time  
8 Statewide Department of Children and Family Services Liaison  
9 who shall attend all child death review team meetings, all  
10 Executive meetings, all Executive Council meetings, and  
11 meetings between the Director and the Executive Council.

12 (f) Members of the General Assembly shall serve on the  
13 Illinois Child Death Review Teams Executive Council and attend  
14 all Executive Council meetings. Members of the General  
15 Assembly shall be permitted to attend all Executive meetings,  
16 meetings between the Director and the Executive Council, and  
17 Child Death Review regional team meetings.

18 (Source: P.A. 102-538, eff. 8-20-21.)

19 (20 ILCS 515/20)

20 Sec. 20. Reviews of child deaths.

21 (a) Every child death shall be reviewed by the team in the  
22 subregion which has primary case management responsibility.  
23 The deceased child must be one of the following:

24 (1) A youth in care.

25 (2) The subject of an open service case maintained by

1 the Department.

2 (3) The subject of a pending child abuse or neglect  
3 investigation.

4 (4) A child who was the subject of an abuse or neglect  
5 investigation at any time during the 12 months preceding  
6 the child's death.

7 (5) Any other child whose death is reported to the  
8 State central register as a result of alleged child abuse  
9 or neglect which report is subsequently indicated.

10 A child death review team may, at its discretion, review  
11 other sudden, unexpected, or unexplained child deaths, cases  
12 of serious or fatal injuries to a child identified under the  
13 Children's Advocacy Center Act, and all unfounded child death  
14 cases.

15 (b) A child death review team's purpose in conducting  
16 reviews of child deaths is to do the following:

17 (1) Assist in determining the cause and manner of the  
18 child's death, when requested.

19 (2) Evaluate means by which the death might have been  
20 prevented.

21 (3) Report its findings to appropriate agencies and  
22 make recommendations that may help to reduce the number of  
23 child deaths caused by abuse or neglect.

24 (4) Promote continuing education for professionals  
25 involved in investigating, treating, and preventing child  
26 abuse and neglect as a means of preventing child deaths

1 due to abuse or neglect.

2 (5) Make specific recommendations to the Director and  
3 the Inspector General of the Department concerning the  
4 prevention of child deaths due to abuse or neglect and the  
5 establishment of protocols for investigating child deaths.

6 (6) Share the specific recommendations made under  
7 paragraph (5) with the General Assembly.

8 (c) A child death review team shall review a child death as  
9 soon as practical and not later than 90 days following the  
10 completion by the Department of the investigation of the death  
11 under the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act. When there  
12 has been no investigation by the Department, the child death  
13 review team shall review a child's death within 90 days after  
14 obtaining the information necessary to complete the review  
15 from the coroner, pathologist, medical examiner, or law  
16 enforcement agency, depending on the nature of the case. A  
17 child death review team shall meet at least once in each  
18 calendar quarter.

19 (d) The Director shall, within 90 days, review and reply  
20 to recommendations made by a team under item (5) of subsection  
21 (b). With respect to each recommendation made by a team, the  
22 Director shall submit his or her reply both to the chairperson  
23 of that team and to the chairperson of the Executive Council.  
24 The Director's reply to each recommendation must include a  
25 statement as to whether the Director intends to implement the  
26 recommendation. The Director shall meet in person with the

1 Executive Council at least every 60 days to discuss  
2 recommendations and the Department's responses.

3 The Director shall implement recommendations as feasible  
4 and appropriate and shall respond in writing to explain the  
5 implementation or nonimplementation of the recommendations.

6 (e) Within 90 days after the Director submits a reply with  
7 respect to a recommendation as required by subsection (d), the  
8 Director must submit an additional report that sets forth in  
9 detail the way, if any, in which the Director will implement  
10 the recommendation and the schedule for implementing the  
11 recommendation. The Director shall submit this report to the  
12 chairperson of the team that made the recommendation and to  
13 the chairperson of the Executive Council.

14 (f) Within 180 days after the Director submits a report  
15 under subsection (e) concerning the implementation of a  
16 recommendation, the Director shall submit a further report to  
17 the chairperson of the team that made the recommendation and  
18 to the chairperson of the Executive Council. This report shall  
19 set forth the specific changes in the Department's policies  
20 and procedures that have been made in response to the  
21 recommendation.

22 (Source: P.A. 100-159, eff. 8-18-17; 100-1122, eff. 11-27-18.)