

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to human services; requiring a comprehensive child welfare quality  
1.3 assurance system; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter  
1.4 257.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. [257.0735] CHILD WELFARE; CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICE

1.7 REVIEW.

1.8 Subdivision 1. Program requirements. The commissioner of human services shall  
1.9 develop and implement a quality assurance review process for the child welfare system,  
1.10 based on the federally mandated Child and Family Service Reviews.

1.11 Subd. 2. Process. The Minnesota Child and Family Service Review process must  
1.12 be a comprehensive and qualitative review process that consists of three phases:

1.13 (1) the prereview phase, in which each county completes a guided assessment of their  
1.14 child welfare infrastructure based on systemic factors and federal performance indicators;

1.15 (2) the on-site phase, in which county child welfare cases are randomly selected for  
1.16 on-site case review by state quality assurance staff; and

1.17 (3) the program improvement plan phase, in which the county agency, with the  
1.18 assistance of state quality assurance staff, prepares a program improvement plan for all  
1.19 performance items that are rated below 85 percent, with quarterly progress reports to the  
1.20 commissioner until the performance items are rectified.

1.21 Subd. 3. Review and report schedule and requirements. (a) The commissioner  
1.22 shall develop a tiered schedule for child and family service reviews and reports, with two  
1.23 large urban counties being reviewed on an annual basis, and other counties reviewed

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2.1 every two to four years, depending on each county's child population; the larger the child  
2.2 population, the more frequent the reviews.

2.3 (b) Each county shall post program improvement plans to the county's Web site. The  
2.4 county shall also submit quarterly program improvement plans' progress reports to the  
2.5 commissioner, and post those quarterly reports to the county's Web site. The plans and  
2.6 reports must be posted to the county's Web site in a timely manner.