



## Please Vote YES on HB19-1063

### Information Sharing in County Departments of Human Services

**Sponsors: Rep. Kraft Tharp & Rep. Larson  
Sen. Gardner & Sen. Lee**

**Problem:**

HB19-1063 addresses two problems:

- 1.) County departments of human services are prohibited from sharing information between their Child Protective Services (CPS) and Adult Protective Services (APS) divisions to determine risk in a household on an ongoing basis which can result in duplicate investigations and provisions of services.

In order to provide integrated services to clients, counties need to know whether a family has a prior history with either CPS or APS in order to protect vulnerable kids and adults and provide the correct services.

For example, a child is known to CPS and has a recorded history of abuse while in the care of their mother. If that same child turns 18 and is now an at-risk adult and has new reports of abuse by the mother, those enter through county APS. In this hypothetical case, APS caseworkers would be prohibited from reviewing the CPS history for this family and would be unaware of the earlier abuse. This creates unnecessary risk for the young adult and duplicative investigative work for both county APS and the family and may result in duplicative or incorrect services being provided to the young adult.

- 2.) At-risk adults cannot view their own APS records unless they secure a court order.

This is an unnecessary hurdle for an adult. In CPS, a minor or their guardian can request to see their own completed assessment report. At risk adults need the same access to their report so they can self-advocate and be aware of those who may pose risk to them. Additionally, if a court case is not opened, there is no court that can be petitioned for a court order.

**Solution:**

Section 1 of HB19-1063 authorizes information sharing when it is necessary to assess the safety, risk or provision of services for vulnerable children and adults. When information is shared within county departments of human services, all federal and state laws concerning protected or confidential information must be followed.

Section 2 of HB19-1063 allows a protected adult to see their own records. Additional provisions speak to the required redaction of information regarding who filed the report and what happens when the protected adult is incompetent.

## Please Support HB19-1063

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