

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to child protection; modifying the child protection information technology
1.3 system review; amending Laws 2023, chapter 70, article 14, section 38.

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

1.5 Section 1. Laws 2023, chapter 70, article 14, section 38, is amended to read:

1.6 **Sec. 38. DIRECTION TO THE COMMISSIONER OF HUMAN SERVICES; CHILD**
1.7 **PROTECTION INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEM REVIEW.**

1.8 (a) The commissioner of human services must contract with an independent consultant
1.9 to perform a thorough evaluation of the social services information system (SSIS) that
1.10 supports the child protection system in Minnesota. The consultant must make
1.11 recommendations for improving the current system for usability, system performance, and
1.12 federal Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System compliance, and must address
1.13 technical problems and identify any unnecessary or unduly burdensome data entry
1.14 requirements that have contributed to system capacity issues. The consultant must also make
1.15 recommendations on whether the system could allow counties to track various financial
1.16 information, including benefits received by counties on behalf of children in the child
1.17 protection system. The consultant must assist the commissioner with selecting a platform
1.18 for future development of an information technology system for child protection.

1.19 (b) The commissioner of human services must conduct a study and develop
1.20 recommendations to streamline and reduce SSIS data entry requirements for child protection
1.21 cases. The study must review all input fields required on current reporting forms and
1.22 determine which input fields and information are required under state or federal law. The

2.1 study must be completed in partnership with local social services agencies and other entities,
2.2 as determined by the commissioner. By June 30, 2024, the commissioner must provide a
2.3 status report and an implementation timeline to the chairs and ranking minority members
2.4 of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over child protection. The status report must
2.5 include information about the procedures used for soliciting ongoing user input from
2.6 stakeholders, the progress made on soliciting and hiring a consultant to conduct the system
2.7 evaluation required under paragraph (a), and a report on the progress and completed efforts
2.8 to streamline data entry requirements and improve user experiences.