

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES -  
REVIEW AND OVERSIGHT**

2010 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Rebecca D. Lockhart**

Senate Sponsor: Curtis S. Bramble

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**LONG TITLE**

**Committee Note:**

The Administrative Rules Review Committee recommended this bill.

**General Description:**

This bill amends provisions of the Open and Public Meetings Act, the Utah Human Services Code, and the Government Records Access and Management Act to provide review and oversight relating to fatalities and other matters that occur in relation to a person in the custody of, or who has received services from, the Department of Human Services.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
- ▶ amends provisions of the Open and Public Meetings Act to require that meetings of the Health and Human Services Interim Committee and the Child Welfare Legislative Oversight Panel to review individual cases be closed meetings;
  - ▶ requires that investigations of abuse or neglect of a child who is in the custody of the Division of Child and Family Services shall be conducted by an independent child protective service investigator from the private sector;
  - ▶ amends and consolidates other provisions relating to investigation of abuse or neglect of a child;



- 28           ▶ codifies and amends provisions relating to fatality reviews and fatality review
- 29 committees for the Department of Human Services;
- 30           ▶ requires that a copy of a fatality review report and related documents be provided to
- 31 the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel and the chairs of the Health
- 32 and Human Services Interim Committee and the Child Welfare Legislative
- 33 Oversight Panel;
- 34           ▶ gives the Health and Human Services Interim Committee authority to review, in a
- 35 closed meeting, a fatality review report;
- 36           ▶ requires the Child Welfare Legislative Oversight Panel to review, in a closed
- 37 meeting, certain fatality review reports;
- 38           ▶ describes requirements relating to the annual executive summary on fatality review
- 39 reports;
- 40           ▶ amends the Government Records Access and Management Act to permit the
- 41 disclosure of fatality review reports and related documents to the Office of
- 42 Legislative Research and General Counsel and the chairs of the Health and Human
- 43 Services Interim Committee and the Child Welfare Legislative Oversight Panel; and
- 44           ▶ makes technical changes.

**45 Monies Appropriated in this Bill:**

46           None

**47 Other Special Clauses:**

48           None

**49 Utah Code Sections Affected:**

50 AMENDS:

51           **52-4-204**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2006, Chapter 263 and renumbered and

52 amended by Laws of Utah 2006, Chapter 14

53           **52-4-205**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2006, Chapter 14

54           **52-4-206**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapter 382

55           **62A-4a-202.6**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2009, Chapter 75

56           **62A-4a-409**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapters 3 and 299

57           **62A-4a-414**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapter 299

58           **63G-2-202**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapters 87, 91 and renumbered

59 and amended by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapter 382

60 ENACTS:

61 **62A-16-101**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

62 **62A-16-102**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

63 **62A-16-201**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

64 **62A-16-202**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

65 **62A-16-203**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

66 **62A-16-204**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

67 **62A-16-301**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

68 **62A-16-302**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

69 REPEALS:

70 **62A-4a-202.5**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2001, Chapter 58



72 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

73 Section 1. Section **52-4-204** is amended to read:

74 **52-4-204. Closed meeting held upon vote of members -- Business -- Reasons for**  
75 **meeting recorded.**

76 (1) A closed meeting may be held:

77 (a) if a quorum is present; and

78 (b) (i) if two-thirds of the members of the public body present at an open meeting for  
79 which notice is given under Section 52-4-202 vote to approve closing the meeting[.]; or

80 (ii) for a meeting that is required to be closed under Section 52-4-205, if a majority of  
81 the members of the public body present at an open meeting for which notice is given under  
82 Section 52-4-202 vote to approve closing the meeting.

83 (2) A closed meeting is not allowed unless each matter discussed in the closed meeting  
84 is permitted under Section 52-4-205.

85 (3) An ordinance, resolution, rule, regulation, contract, or appointment may not be  
86 approved at a closed meeting.

87 (4) The following information shall be publicly announced and entered on the minutes  
88 of the open meeting at which the closed meeting was approved:

89 (a) the reason or reasons for holding the closed meeting;

90 (b) the location where the closed meeting will be held; and

91 (c) the vote by name, of each member of the public body, either for or against the  
92 motion to hold the closed meeting.

93 (5) ~~[Nothing]~~ Except as provided in Subsection 52-4-205(2), nothing in this chapter  
94 shall be construed to require any meeting to be closed to the public.

95 Section 2. Section **52-4-205** is amended to read:

96 **52-4-205. Purposes of closed meetings.**

97 (1) A closed meeting described under Section 52-4-204 may only be held for:

98 (a) discussion of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health  
99 of an individual;

100 (b) strategy sessions to discuss collective bargaining;

101 (c) strategy sessions to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation;

102 (d) strategy sessions to discuss the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property if  
103 public discussion of the transaction would:

104 (i) disclose the appraisal or estimated value of the property under consideration; or

105 (ii) prevent the public body from completing the transaction on the best possible terms;

106 (e) strategy sessions to discuss the sale of real property if:

107 (i) public discussion of the transaction would:

108 (A) disclose the appraisal or estimated value of the property under consideration; or

109 (B) prevent the public body from completing the transaction on the best possible terms;

110 (ii) the public body previously gave public notice that the property would be offered for  
111 sale; and

112 (iii) the terms of the sale are publicly disclosed before the public body approves the  
113 sale;

114 (f) discussion regarding deployment of security personnel, devices, or systems;

115 (g) investigative proceedings regarding allegations of criminal misconduct; ~~[and]~~

116 (h) discussion by a county legislative body of commercial information as defined in  
117 Section 59-1-404[-]; or

118 (i) a purpose for which a meeting is required to be closed under Subsection (2).

119 (2) The following meetings shall be closed:

120 (a) a meeting of the Health and Human Services Interim Committee to review a fatality

121 review report described in Subsection 62A-16-301(1)(a), and the responses to the report  
122 described in Subsections 62A-16-301(2) and (4); and

123 (b) a meeting of the Child Welfare Legislative Oversight Panel to:

124 (i) review a fatality review report described in Subsection 62A-16-301(1)(a), and the  
125 responses to the report described in Subsections 62A-16-301(2) and (4); or

126 (ii) review and discuss an individual case, as described in Subsection 62A-4a-207(5).

127 ~~[(2)]~~ (3) A public body may not interview a person applying to fill an elected position  
128 in a closed meeting.

129 Section 3. Section **52-4-206** is amended to read:

130 **52-4-206. Record of closed meetings.**

131 (1) Except as provided under Subsection (6), if a public body closes a meeting under  
132 Subsection 52-4-205(1), the public body:

133 (a) shall make a recording of the closed portion of the meeting; and

134 (b) may keep detailed written minutes that disclose the content of the closed portion of  
135 the meeting.

136 (2) A recording of a closed meeting shall be complete and unedited from the  
137 commencement of the closed meeting through adjournment of the closed meeting.

138 (3) The recording and any minutes of a closed meeting shall include:

139 (a) the date, time, and place of the meeting;

140 (b) the names of members present and absent; and

141 (c) the names of all others present except where the disclosure would infringe on the  
142 confidentiality necessary to fulfill the original purpose of closing the meeting.

143 (4) Minutes or recordings of a closed meeting that are required to be retained  
144 permanently shall be maintained in or converted to a format that meets long-term records  
145 storage requirements.

146 (5) Both a recording and written minutes of closed meetings are protected records  
147 under Title 63G, Chapter 2, Government Records Access and Management Act, except that the  
148 records may be disclosed under a court order only as provided under Section 52-4-304.

149 (6) If a public body closes a meeting exclusively for the purposes described under  
150 Subsection 52-4-205(1)(a) [~~or Subsection 52-4-205~~], (1)(f), or (2):

151 (a) the person presiding shall sign a sworn statement affirming that the sole purpose for

152 closing the meeting was to discuss the purposes described under Subsection 52-4-205(1)(a) [~~or~~  
153 ~~Subsection 52-4-205](1)(f), or (2); and~~

154 (b) the provisions of Subsection (1) of this section do not apply.

155 Section 4. Section ~~62A-4a-202.6~~ is amended to read:

156 **62A-4a-202.6. Conflict child protective services investigations -- Authority of**  
157 **investigators.**

158 [~~(1) (a) In accordance with Section 67-5-16 the attorney general may employ, with the~~  
159 ~~consent of the division, child protective services investigators to investigate reports of abuse or~~  
160 ~~neglect of a child that occur while the child is in the custody of the division.]~~

161 [~~(b) (i) The division shall, in accordance with Subsection 62A-4a-409(5), contract with~~  
162 ~~an independent child protective service investigator to investigate reports of abuse or neglect of~~  
163 ~~a child that occur while the child is in the custody of the division.]~~

164 [~~(ii) The executive director of the department shall designate an entity within the~~  
165 ~~department, other than the division, to monitor the contract for the investigators described in~~  
166 ~~Subsection (1)(b)(i).]~~

167 (1) (a) The division shall contract with an independent child protective service  
168 investigator from the private sector to investigate reports of abuse or neglect of a child that  
169 occur while the child is in the custody of the division.

170 (b) The executive director shall designate an entity within the department, other than  
171 the division, to monitor the contract for the investigators described in Subsection (1)(a).

172 (c) When a report is made that a child is abused or neglected while in the custody of  
173 the division:

174 (i) the attorney general may, in accordance with Section 67-5-16, and with the consent  
175 of the division, employ a child protective services investigator to conduct a conflict  
176 investigation of the report; or

177 (ii) a law enforcement officer, as defined in Section 53-13-103, may, with the consent  
178 of the division, conduct a conflict investigation of the report.

179 (d) Subsection (1)(c)(ii) does not prevent a law enforcement officer from, without the  
180 consent of the division, conducting a criminal investigation of abuse or neglect under Title 53,  
181 Public Safety Code.

182 (2) The investigators described in [~~Subsection (1)] Subsections (1)(c) and (d) may also~~

183 investigate allegations of abuse or neglect of a child by a department employee or a licensed  
184 substitute care provider.

185 (3) The investigators described in Subsection (1), if not peace officers, shall have the  
186 same rights, duties, and authority of a child protective services investigator employed by the  
187 division to:

188 (a) make a thorough investigation upon receiving either an oral or written report of  
189 alleged abuse or neglect of a child, with the primary purpose of that investigation being the  
190 protection of the child;

191 (b) make an inquiry into the child's home environment, emotional, or mental health, the  
192 nature and extent of the child's injuries, and the child's physical safety;

193 (c) make a written report of their investigation, including determination regarding  
194 whether the alleged abuse or neglect was substantiated, unsubstantiated, or without merit, and  
195 forward a copy of that report to the division within the time mandates for investigations  
196 established by the division; and

197 (d) immediately consult with school authorities to verify the child's status in  
198 accordance with Sections 53A-11-101 through 53A-11-103 when a report is based upon or  
199 includes an allegation of educational neglect[;].

200 [~~(e) enter upon public or private premises, using appropriate legal processes, to~~  
201 ~~investigate reports of alleged abuse or neglect, and]~~

202 [~~(f) take a child into protective custody, and deliver the child to a law enforcement~~  
203 ~~officer, or to the division. Control and jurisdiction over the child shall be determined by the~~  
204 ~~provisions of Title 62A, Chapter 4a, Part 2, Child Welfare Services, Title 78A, Chapter 6,~~  
205 ~~Juvenile Court Act of 1996, and as otherwise provided by law.]~~

206 Section 5. Section **62A-4a-409** is amended to read:

207 **62A-4a-409. Investigation by division -- Temporary protective custody --**  
208 **Preremoval interviews of children.**

209 (1) (a) The division shall make a thorough preremoval investigation upon receiving  
210 either an oral or written report of alleged abuse, neglect, fetal alcohol syndrome, or fetal drug  
211 dependency, when there is reasonable cause to suspect that a situation of abuse, neglect, fetal  
212 alcohol syndrome, or fetal drug dependency exists.

213 (b) The primary purpose of the investigation described in Subsection (1)(a) shall be

214 protection of the child.

215 (2) The preremoval investigation described in Subsection (1)(a) shall include the same  
216 investigative requirements described in Section 62A-4a-202.3.

217 (3) The division shall make a written report of its investigation that shall include a  
218 determination regarding whether the alleged abuse or neglect is supported, unsupported, or  
219 without merit.

220 (4) (a) The division shall use an interdisciplinary approach when appropriate in dealing  
221 with reports made under this part.

222 (b) For this purpose, the division shall convene appropriate interdisciplinary "child  
223 protection teams" to assist it in its protective, diagnostic, assessment, treatment, and  
224 coordination services.

225 (c) A representative of the division shall serve as the team's coordinator and chair.  
226 Members of the team shall serve at the coordinator's invitation. Whenever possible, the team  
227 shall include representatives of:

- 228 (i) health, mental health, education, and law enforcement agencies;
- 229 (ii) the child;
- 230 (iii) parent and family support groups unless the parent is alleged to be the perpetrator;
- 231 and
- 232 (iv) other appropriate agencies or individuals.

233 [~~(5) In any case where the division supervises, governs, or directs the affairs of any~~  
234 ~~individual, institution, or facility that is alleged to be involved in acts or omissions of abuse or~~  
235 ~~neglect, the investigation of the reported abuse or neglect shall be conducted by an agency~~  
236 ~~other than the division.]~~

237 [~~(6)~~ (5)] If a report of neglect is based upon or includes an allegation of educational  
238 neglect, the division shall immediately consult with school authorities to verify the child's  
239 status in accordance with Sections 53A-11-101 through 53A-11-103.

240 [~~(7)~~ (6)] When the division completes its initial investigation under this part, it shall  
241 give notice of that completion to the person who made the initial report.

242 [~~(8)~~ (7)] Division workers or other child protection team members have authority to  
243 enter upon public or private premises, using appropriate legal processes, to investigate reports  
244 of alleged abuse or neglect, upon notice to parents of their rights under the Child Abuse



245 Prevention and Treatment Act, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 5106, or any successor thereof.

246 [~~(9)~~] (8) With regard to any interview of a child prior to removal of that child from the  
247 child's home:

248 (a) except as provided in Subsection [~~(9)~~] (8)(b) or (c), the division shall inform a  
249 parent of the child prior to the interview of:

250 (i) the specific allegations concerning the child; and

251 (ii) the time and place of the interview;

252 (b) if a child's parent or stepparent, or a parent's paramour has been identified as the  
253 alleged perpetrator, the division is not required to comply with Subsection [~~(9)~~] (8)(a);

254 (c) if the perpetrator is unknown, or if the perpetrator's relationship to the child's family  
255 is unknown, the division may conduct a minimal interview or conversation, not to exceed 15  
256 minutes, with the child prior to complying with Subsection [~~(9)~~] (8)(a);

257 (d) in all cases described in Subsection [~~(9)~~] (8)(b) or (c), a parent of the child shall be  
258 notified as soon as practicable after the child has been interviewed, but in no case later than 24  
259 hours after the interview has taken place;

260 (e) a child's parents shall be notified of the time and place of all subsequent interviews  
261 with the child; and

262 (f) the child shall be allowed to have a support person of the child's choice present,  
263 who:

264 (i) may include:

265 (A) a school teacher;

266 (B) an administrator;

267 (C) a guidance counselor;

268 (D) a child care provider;

269 (E) a family member;

270 (F) a family advocate; or

271 (G) clergy; and

272 (ii) may not be a person who is alleged to be, or potentially may be, the perpetrator.

273 [~~(10)~~] (9) In accordance with the procedures and requirements of Sections  
274 62A-4a-202.1 through 62A-4a-202.3, a division worker or child protection team member may  
275 take a child into protective custody and deliver the child to a law enforcement officer, or place

276 the child in an emergency shelter facility approved by the juvenile court, at the earliest  
277 opportunity subsequent to the child's removal from the child's original environment. Control  
278 and jurisdiction over the child is determined by the provisions of Title 78A, Chapter 6, Juvenile  
279 Court Act of 1996, and as otherwise provided by law.

280 ~~[(H)]~~ (10) With regard to cases in which law enforcement has or is conducting an  
281 investigation of alleged abuse or neglect of a child:

282 (a) the division shall coordinate with law enforcement to ensure that there is an  
283 adequate safety plan to protect the child from further abuse or neglect; and

284 (b) the division is not required to duplicate an aspect of the investigation that, in the  
285 division's determination, has been satisfactorily completed by law enforcement.

286 Section 6. Section **62A-4a-414** is amended to read:

287 **62A-4a-414. Interviews of children -- Recording required -- Exceptions.**

288 (1) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (4), interviews of children during an  
289 investigation in accordance with Section 62A-4a-409, and involving allegations of sexual  
290 abuse, sexual exploitation, severe abuse, or severe neglect of a child, shall be conducted only  
291 under the following conditions:

292 (i) the interview shall be recorded visually and aurally on film, videotape, or by other  
293 electronic means;

294 (ii) both the interviewer and the child shall be simultaneously recorded and visible on  
295 the final product;

296 (iii) the time and date of the interview shall be continuously and clearly visible to any  
297 subsequent viewer of the recording; and

298 (iv) the recording equipment shall run continuously for the duration of the interview.

299 (b) This Subsection (1) does not apply to initial or minimal interviews conducted in  
300 accordance with Subsection 62A-4a-409~~[(9)]~~(8)(b) or (c).

301 (2) Interviews conducted in accordance with Subsection (1) shall be carried out in an  
302 existing Children's Justice Center or in a soft interview room, when available.

303 (a) If the Children's Justice Center or a soft interview room is not available, the  
304 interviewer shall use the best setting available under the circumstances.

305 (b) Except as provided in Subsection (4), if the equipment required under Subsection  
306 (1) is not available, the interview shall be audiotaped, provided that the interviewer shall

307 clearly state at the beginning of the tape:

308 (i) the time, date, and place of the interview;

309 (ii) the full name and age of the child being interviewed; and

310 (iii) that the equipment required under Subsection (1) is not available and why.

311 (3) Except as provided in Subsection (4), all other investigative interviews shall be

312 audiotaped using electronic means. At the beginning of the tape, the worker shall state clearly

313 the time, date, and place of the meeting, and the full name and age of the child in attendance.

314 (4) (a) Subject to Subsection (4)(b), an interview described in this section may be

315 conducted without being taped if the child:

316 (i) is at least nine years old;

317 (ii) refuses to have the interview audio taped; and

318 (iii) refuses to have the interview video taped.

319 (b) If, pursuant to Subsection (4)(a), an interview is conducted without being taped, the  
320 child's refusal shall be documented as follows:

321 (i) the interviewer shall attempt to get the child's refusal on tape, including the reasons  
322 for the refusal; or

323 (ii) if the child does not allow the refusal, or the reasons for the refusal, to be taped, the  
324 interviewer shall:

325 (A) state on the tape that the child is present, but has refused to have the interview,  
326 refusal, or the reasons for the refusal taped; or

327 (B) if complying with Subsection (4)(b)(ii)(A) will result in the child, who would  
328 otherwise consent to be interviewed, to refuse to be interviewed, the interviewer shall  
329 document, in writing, that the child refused to allow the interview to be taped and the reasons  
330 for that refusal.

331 (c) The division shall track the number of interviews under this section that are not  
332 taped, and the number of refusals that are not taped, for each interviewer, in order to determine  
333 whether a particular interviewer has a higher incidence of refusals, or taped refusals, than other  
334 interviewers.

335 Section 7. Section **62A-16-101** is enacted to read:

336 **CHAPTER 16. FATALITY REVIEW ACT**

337 **Part 1. General Provisions**

338 62A-16-101. Title.

339 This chapter is known as the "Fatality Review Act."

340 Section 8. Section **62A-16-102** is enacted to read:

341 62A-16-102. Definitions.

342 (1) "Committee" means a fatality review committee, formed under Section 62A-16-202  
343 or 62A-16-203.

344 (2) "Qualified individual" means an individual who:

345 (a) at the time that the individual dies, is a resident of a facility or program that is  
346 owned or operated by the department or a division of the department; or

347 (b) (i) is in the custody of the department or a division of the department; and

348 (ii) is placed in a residential placement by the department or a division of the  
349 department;

350 (c) at the time that the individual dies, has an open case for the receipt of child welfare  
351 services, including:

352 (i) an investigation for abuse, neglect, or dependency;

353 (ii) foster care;

354 (iii) in-home services; or

355 (iv) substitute care;

356 (d) had an open case for the receipt of child welfare services within one year  
357 immediately preceding the day on which the individual dies;

358 (e) was the subject of an accepted referral received by Adult Protective Services within  
359 one year immediately preceding the day on which the individual dies, if:

360 (i) the department or a division of the department is aware of the death; and

361 (ii) the death is reported as a homicide, suicide, or an undetermined cause;

362 (f) received services from, or under the direction of, the Division of Services for People  
363 with Disabilities within one year immediately preceding the day on which the individual dies,  
364 unless the individual:

365 (i) lived in the individual's home at the time of death; and

366 (ii) the director of the Office of Services Review determines that the death was not in

367 any way related to services that were provided by, or under the direction of, the department or a  
368 division of the department;

369 (g) dies within 60 days after the day on which the individual is discharged from the  
370 Utah State Hospital, if the department is aware of the death; or

371 (h) is designated as a qualified individual by the executive director.

372 Section 9. Section **62A-16-201** is enacted to read:

373 **Part 2. Fatality Review**

374 **62A-16-201. Initial review.**

375 (1) Within seven days after the day on which the department knows that a qualified  
376 individual has died, a person designated by the department shall:

377 (a) complete a deceased client report form, created by the department; and

378 (b) forward the completed client report form to the director of the office or division  
379 that has jurisdiction over the region or facility.

380 (2) The director of the office or division described in Subsection (1) shall, upon receipt  
381 of a deceased client report form, immediately provide a copy of the form to:

382 (a) the executive director; and

383 (b) the fatality review coordinator.

384 (3) Within 10 days after the day on which the fatality review coordinator receives a  
385 copy of the deceased client report form, the fatality review coordinator shall request a copy of  
386 all relevant department case records regarding the individual who is the subject of the deceased  
387 client report form.

388 (4) Each person who receives a request for a record described in Subsection (3) shall  
389 provide a copy of the record to the fatality review coordinator, by a secure method, within  
390 seven days after the day on which the request is made.

391 (5) Within 30 days after the day on which the fatality review coordinator receives the  
392 case records requested under Subsection (3), the fatality review coordinator, or a designee of  
393 the fatality review coordinator, shall:

394 (a) review the deceased client report form, the case files, and other relevant  
395 information received by the fatality review coordinator; and

396 (b) make a recommendation to the director of the Office of Services Review regarding  
397 whether a formal fatality review should be conducted.

398 (6) (a) In accordance with Subsection (6)(b), within seven days after the day on which  
399 the fatality review coordinator makes the recommendation described in Subsection (5)(b), the

400 director of the Office of Services Review shall determine whether to order that a formal fatality  
401 review be conducted.

402 (b) The director of the Office of Services Review shall order that a formal fatality  
403 review be conducted if:

404 (i) at the time of death, the qualified individual is:

405 (A) an individual described in Subsection 62A-16-102(2)(a) or (b), unless:

406 (I) the death is due to a natural cause; or

407 (II) the director of the Office of Services Review determines that the death was not in  
408 any way related to services that were provided by, or under the direction of, the department or a  
409 division of the department; or

410 (B) a child in foster care or substitute care, unless the death is due to:

411 (I) a natural cause; or

412 (II) an accident;

413 (ii) it appears, based on the information provided to the director of the Office of  
414 Services Review, that:

415 (A) a provision of law, rule, policy, or procedure relating to the deceased individual or  
416 the deceased individual's family may not have been complied with;

417 (B) the fatality was not responded to properly;

418 (C) a law, rule, policy, or procedure may need to be changed; or

419 (D) additional training is needed;

420 (iii) the death is caused by suicide; or

421 (iv) the director of the Office of Services Review determines that another reason exists  
422 to order that a formal fatality review be conducted.

423 Section 10. Section **62A-16-202** is enacted to read:

424 **62A-16-202. Fatality Review Committee for a deceased individual who was not a**  
425 **resident of the Utah State Hospital or the Utah State Developmental Center.**

426 (1) Except for a fatality review committee described in Section 62A-16-203, the  
427 fatality review coordinator shall organize a fatality review committee for each formal fatality  
428 review that is ordered to be conducted under Subsection 62A-16-201(6).

429 (2) Except as provided in Subsection (5), a committee described in Subsection (1):

430 (a) shall include the following members:

- 431 (i) the department's fatality review coordinator, who shall designate a member of the  
432 committee to serve as chair of the committee;
- 433 (ii) a member of the board, if there is a board, of the relevant division or office;  
434 (iii) the attorney general or the attorney general's designee;  
435 (iv) (A) a member of the management staff of the relevant division or office; or  
436 (B) a person who is a supervisor, or a higher level position, from a region that did not  
437 have jurisdiction over the qualified individual; and
- 438 (v) a member of the department's risk management services; and
- 439 (b) may include the following members:
- 440 (i) a health care professional;  
441 (ii) a law enforcement officer; or  
442 (iii) a representative of the Office of Public Guardian.
- 443 (3) If a death that is subject to formal review involves a qualified individual described  
444 in Subsection 62A-16-102(2)(c) or (d), the committee may also include:
- 445 (a) a health care professional;  
446 (b) a law enforcement officer;  
447 (c) the director of the Office of Guardian ad Litem;  
448 (d) an employee of the division who may be able to provide information or expertise  
449 that would be helpful to the formal review; or
- 450 (e) a professional whose knowledge or expertise may significantly contribute to the  
451 formal review.
- 452 (4) A committee described in Subsection (1) may also include a person whose  
453 knowledge or expertise may significantly contribute to the formal review.
- 454 (5) A committee described in this section may not include an individual who was  
455 involved in, or who supervises a person who was involved in, the fatality.
- 456 (6) Each member of a committee described in this section who is not an employee of  
457 the department shall sign a form, created by the department, indicating that the member agrees  
458 to:
- 459 (a) keep all information relating to a fatality review confidential; and  
460 (b) not release any information relating to a fatality review, unless required or  
461 permitted by law to release the information.

462 Section 11. Section **62A-16-203** is enacted to read:

463 **62A-16-203. Fatality Review Committees for a deceased resident of the Utah State**  
464 **Hospital or the Utah State Developmental Center.**

465 (1) If a qualified individual who is the subject of a formal fatality review that is ordered  
466 to be conducted under Subsection 62A-16-201(6), was a resident of the Utah State Hospital or  
467 the Utah State Developmental Center, the fatality review coordinator of that facility shall  
468 organize a fatality review committee to review the fatality.

469 (2) Except as provided in Subsection (4), a committee described in Subsection (1) shall  
470 include the following members:

471 (a) the fatality review coordinator for the facility, who shall serve as chair of the  
472 committee;

473 (b) a member of the management staff of the facility;

474 (c) a supervisor of a unit other than the one in which the qualified individual resided;

475 (d) a physician;

476 (e) a representative from the administration of the division that oversees the facility;

477 (f) the department's fatality review coordinator;

478 (g) a member of the department's risk management services; and

479 (h) a citizen who is not an employee of the department.

480 (3) A committee described in Subsection (1) may also include a person whose  
481 knowledge or expertise may significantly contribute to the formal review.

482 (4) A committee described in this section may not include an individual who:

483 (a) was involved in, or who supervises a person who was involved in, the fatality; or

484 (b) has a conflict with the fatality review.

485 Section 12. Section **62A-16-204** is enacted to read:

486 **62A-16-204. Fatality Review Committee Proceedings.**

487 (1) A majority vote of committee members present constitutes the action of the  
488 committee.

489 (2) The department shall give the committee access to all reports, records, and other  
490 documents that are relevant to the fatality under investigation, including:

491 (a) narrative reports;

492 (b) case files;



493 (c) autopsy reports; and

494 (d) police reports, unless the report is protected from disclosure under Subsection  
495 63G-2-305(9) or (10).

496 (3) The Utah State Hospital and the Utah State Developmental Center shall provide  
497 protected health information to the committee if requested by a fatality review coordinator.

498 (4) A committee shall convene its first meeting within 14 days after the day on which a  
499 formal fatality review is ordered under Subsection 62A-16-201(6), unless this time is extended,  
500 for good cause, by the director of the Office of Services Review.

501 (5) A committee may interview a staff member, a provider, or any other person who  
502 may have knowledge or expertise that is relevant to the fatality review.

503 (6) A committee shall render an advisory opinion regarding:

504 (a) whether the provisions of law, rule, policy, and procedure relating to the deceased  
505 individual and the deceased individual's family were complied with;

506 (b) whether the fatality was responded to properly;

507 (c) whether to recommend that a law, rule, policy, or procedure be changed; and

508 (d) whether additional training is needed.

509 Section 13. Section **62A-16-301** is enacted to read:

510 **Part 3. Reporting and Review**

511 **62A-16-301. Fatality review committee report -- Response to report.**

512 (1) Within 20 days after the day on which the committee proceedings described in  
513 Section 62A-16-204 end, the committee shall submit:

514 (a) a written report to the executive director that includes:

515 (i) the advisory opinions made under Subsection 62A-16-204(6); and

516 (ii) any recommendations regarding action that should be taken in relation to an  
517 employee of the department or a person who contracts with the department; and

518 (b) a copy of the report described in Subsection (1)(a), with only identifying  
519 information redacted, to:

520 (i) the director of the office or division to which the fatality relates; and

521 (ii) the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.

522 (2) Within 20 days after the day on which the director described in Subsection (1)(b)(i)  
523 receives a copy of the report described in Subsection (1)(a), the director shall provide a written

524 response to the executive director, a copy of the response, with only identifying information  
525 redacted, to the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, and an unredacted copy of  
526 the response to the director of the Office of Services Review, if the report:

527 (a) indicates that a law, rule, policy, or procedure was not complied with;

528 (b) indicates that the fatality was not responded to properly;

529 (c) recommends that a law, rule, policy, or procedure be changed; or

530 (d) indicates that additional training is needed.

531 (3) The response described in Subsection (2) shall include a plan of action to

532 implement any recommended improvements within the office or division.

533 (4) Within 30 days after the day on which the executive director receives the response  
534 described in Subsection (2), the executive director, or the executive director's designee shall:

535 (a) review the action plan described in Subsection (3);

536 (b) make any written response that the executive director or the executive director's  
537 designee determines is necessary;

538 (c) provide a copy of the written response described in Subsection (4)(b), with only  
539 identifying information redacted, to the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel;

540 and

541 (d) provide an unredacted copy of the response described in Subsection (4)(b) to the  
542 director of the Office of Services Review.

543 (5) A report described in Subsection (1) and each response described in this section is a  
544 protected record.

545 (6) A report described in Subsection (1) and each response described in this section is  
546 not subject to discovery, subpoena, or similar compulsory process in any civil, judicial, or  
547 administrative proceeding, nor shall any individual or organization with lawful access to the  
548 data be compelled to testify with regard to a report described in Subsection (1) or a response  
549 described in this section.

550 Section 14. Section **62A-16-302** is enacted to read:

551 **62A-16-302. Reporting to, and review by, legislative committees.**

552 (1) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall provide a copy of the  
553 report described in Subsection 62A-16-301(1)(b), and the responses described in Subsections  
554 62A-16-301(2) and (4)(c) to the chairs of:

555 (a) the Health and Human Services Interim Committee; or  
556 (b) if the individual who is the subject of the report was, at the time of death, a person  
557 described in Subsection 62A-16-102(2)(c) or (d), the Child Welfare Legislative Oversight  
558 Panel.

559 (2) (a) The Health and Human Services Interim Committee may, in a closed meeting,  
560 review a report described in Subsection 62A-16-301(1)(b).

561 (b) The Child Welfare Legislative Oversight Panel shall, in a closed meeting, review a  
562 report described in Subsection (1)(b).

563 (3) (a) Neither the Health and Human Services Interim Committee nor the Child  
564 Welfare Legislative Oversight Panel may interfere with, or make recommendations regarding,  
565 the resolution of a particular case.

566 (b) The purpose of a review described in Subsection (2) is to assist a committee or  
567 panel described in Subsection (2) in determining whether to recommend a change in the law.

568 (c) Any recommendation, described in Subsection (3)(b), by a committee or panel for a  
569 change in the law shall be made in an open meeting.

570 (4) On or before September 1 of each year, the department shall provide an executive  
571 summary of all fatality review reports for the preceding state fiscal year to:

572 (a) the Health and Human Services Interim Committee; and  
573 (b) the Child Welfare Legislative Oversight Panel.

574 (5) The executive summary described in Subsection (4):

575 (a) may not include any names or identifying information; and  
576 (b) shall include:

577 (i) all recommendations regarding changes to the law that were made during the  
578 preceding fiscal year under Subsection 62A-16-204(6);

579 (ii) all changes made, or in the process of being made, to a law, rule, policy, or  
580 procedure in response to a fatality review that occurred during the preceding fiscal year;

581 (iii) a description of the training that has been completed in response to a fatality  
582 review that occurred during the preceding fiscal year;

583 (iv) statistics for the preceding fiscal year regarding:

584 (A) the number and type of fatalities of qualified individuals that are known to the  
585 department;

- 586 (B) the number of formal fatality reviews conducted;
- 587 (C) the categories, described in Subsection 62A-16-102(2) of qualified individuals who
- 588 died;
- 589 (D) the gender, age, race, and other significant categories of qualified individuals who
- 590 died; and
- 591 (E) the number of fatalities of qualified individuals known to the department that are
- 592 identified as suicides; and
- 593 (v) action taken by the Office of Licensing and the Bureau of Internal Review and
- 594 Audits in response to the fatality of a qualified individual.

595 Section 15. Section **63G-2-202** is amended to read:

596 **63G-2-202. Access to private, controlled, and protected documents.**

597 (1) Upon request, and except as provided in Subsection (11)(a), a governmental entity  
598 shall disclose a private record to:

- 599 (a) the subject of the record;
- 600 (b) the parent or legal guardian of an unemancipated minor who is the subject of the
- 601 record;
- 602 (c) the legal guardian of a legally incapacitated individual who is the subject of the
- 603 record;
- 604 (d) any other individual who:
  - 605 (i) has a power of attorney from the subject of the record;
  - 606 (ii) submits a notarized release from the subject of the record or the individual's legal
  - 607 representative dated no more than 90 days before the date the request is made; or
  - 608 (iii) if the record is a medical record described in Subsection 63G-2-302(1)(b), is a
  - 609 health care provider, as defined in Section 26-33a-102, if releasing the record or information in
  - 610 the record is consistent with normal professional practice and medical ethics; or
- 611 (e) any person to whom the record must be provided pursuant to:
  - 612 (i) court order as provided in Subsection (7); or
  - 613 (ii) a legislative subpoena as provided in Title 36, Chapter 14, Legislative Subpoena

614 Powers.

615 (2) (a) Upon request, a governmental entity shall disclose a controlled record to:

- 616 (i) a physician, psychologist, certified social worker, insurance provider or producer, or

617 a government public health agency upon submission of:

618 (A) a release from the subject of the record that is dated no more than 90 days prior to  
619 the date the request is made; and

620 (B) a signed acknowledgment of the terms of disclosure of controlled information as  
621 provided by Subsection (2)(b); and

622 (ii) any person to whom the record must be disclosed pursuant to:

623 (A) a court order as provided in Subsection (7); or

624 (B) a legislative subpoena as provided in Title 36, Chapter 14, Legislative Subpoena  
625 Powers.

626 (b) A person who receives a record from a governmental entity in accordance with  
627 Subsection (2)(a)(i) may not disclose controlled information from that record to any person,  
628 including the subject of the record.

629 (3) If there is more than one subject of a private or controlled record, the portion of the  
630 record that pertains to another subject shall be segregated from the portion that the requester is  
631 entitled to inspect.

632 (4) Upon request, and except as provided in Subsection (10) or (11)(b), a governmental  
633 entity shall disclose a protected record to:

634 (a) the person who submitted the record;

635 (b) any other individual who:

636 (i) has a power of attorney from all persons, governmental entities, or political  
637 subdivisions whose interests were sought to be protected by the protected classification; or

638 (ii) submits a notarized release from all persons, governmental entities, or political  
639 subdivisions whose interests were sought to be protected by the protected classification or from  
640 their legal representatives dated no more than 90 days prior to the date the request is made;

641 (c) any person to whom the record must be provided pursuant to:

642 (i) a court order as provided in Subsection (7); or

643 (ii) a legislative subpoena as provided in Title 36, Chapter 14, Legislative Subpoena  
644 Powers; or

645 (d) the owner of a mobile home park, subject to the conditions of Subsection  
646 41-1a-116(5).

647 (5) A governmental entity may disclose a private, controlled, or protected record to

648 another governmental entity, political subdivision, another state, the United States, or a foreign  
649 government only as provided by Section 63G-2-206.

650 (6) Before releasing a private, controlled, or protected record, the governmental entity  
651 shall obtain evidence of the requester's identity.

652 (7) A governmental entity shall disclose a record pursuant to the terms of a court order  
653 signed by a judge from a court of competent jurisdiction, provided that:

654 (a) the record deals with a matter in controversy over which the court has jurisdiction;

655 (b) the court has considered the merits of the request for access to the record; and

656 (c) the court has considered and, where appropriate, limited the requester's use and  
657 further disclosure of the record in order to protect:

658 (i) privacy interests in the case of private or controlled records;

659 (ii) business confidentiality interests in the case of records protected under Subsection  
660 63G-2-305(1), (2), (40)(a)(ii), or (40)(a)(vi); and

661 (iii) privacy interests or the public interest in the case of other protected records;

662 (d) to the extent the record is properly classified private, controlled, or protected, the  
663 interests favoring access, considering limitations thereon, outweigh the interests favoring  
664 restriction of access; and

665 (e) where access is restricted by a rule, statute, or regulation referred to in Subsection  
666 63G-2-201(3)(b), the court has authority independent of this chapter to order disclosure.

667 (8) (a) A governmental entity may disclose or authorize disclosure of private or  
668 controlled records for research purposes if the governmental entity:

669 (i) determines that the research purpose cannot reasonably be accomplished without  
670 use or disclosure of the information to the researcher in individually identifiable form;

671 (ii) determines that:

672 (A) the proposed research is bona fide; and

673 (B) the value of the research outweighs the infringement upon personal privacy;

674 (iii) (A) requires the researcher to assure the integrity, confidentiality, and security of  
675 the records; and

676 (B) requires the removal or destruction of the individual identifiers associated with the  
677 records as soon as the purpose of the research project has been accomplished;

678 (iv) prohibits the researcher from:

679 (A) disclosing the record in individually identifiable form, except as provided in  
680 Subsection (8)(b); or

681 (B) using the record for purposes other than the research approved by the governmental  
682 entity; and

683 (v) secures from the researcher a written statement of the researcher's understanding of  
684 and agreement to the conditions of this Subsection (8) and the researcher's understanding that  
685 violation of the terms of this Subsection (8) may subject the researcher to criminal prosecution  
686 under Section 63G-2-801.

687 (b) A researcher may disclose a record in individually identifiable form if the record is  
688 disclosed for the purpose of auditing or evaluating the research program and no subsequent use  
689 or disclosure of the record in individually identifiable form will be made by the auditor or  
690 evaluator except as provided by this section.

691 (c) A governmental entity may require indemnification as a condition of permitting  
692 research under this Subsection (8).

693 (9) (a) Under Subsections 63G-2-201(5)(b) and 63G-2-401(6), a governmental entity  
694 may disclose to persons other than those specified in this section records that are:

695 (i) private under Section 63G-2-302; or

696 (ii) protected under Section 63G-2-305 subject to Section 63G-2-309 if a claim for  
697 business confidentiality has been made under Section 63G-2-309.

698 (b) Under Subsection 63G-2-403(11)(b), the records committee may require the  
699 disclosure to persons other than those specified in this section of records that are:

700 (i) private under Section 63G-2-302;

701 (ii) controlled under Section 63G-2-304; or

702 (iii) protected under Section 63G-2-305 subject to Section 63G-2-309 if a claim for  
703 business confidentiality has been made under Section 63G-2-309.

704 (c) Under Subsection 63G-2-404(8), the court may require the disclosure of records  
705 that are private under Section 63G-2-302, controlled under Section 63G-2-304, or protected  
706 under Section 63G-2-305 to persons other than those specified in this section.

707 (10) A record contained in the Management Information System, created in Section  
708 62A-4a-1003, that is found to be unsubstantiated, unsupported, or without merit may not be  
709 disclosed to any person except the person who is alleged in the report to be a perpetrator of

710 abuse, neglect, or dependency.

711 (11) (a) A private record described in Subsection 63G-2-302(2)(f) may only be  
712 disclosed as provided in Subsection (1)(e).

713 (b) A protected record described in Subsection 63G-2-305(43) may only be disclosed  
714 as provided in Subsection (4)(c) or Section 62A-3-312.

715 (12) (a) A private, protected, or controlled record described in Section 62A-16-301  
716 shall be disclosed as required under:

717 (i) Subsections 62A-16-301(1)(b), (2), and (4)(c); and

718 (ii) Subsection 62A-16-302(1).

719 (b) A record disclosed under Subsection (12)(a) shall retain its character as private,  
720 protected, or controlled.

721 Section 16. **Repealer.**

722 This bill repeals:

723 Section **62A-4a-202.5**, Law enforcement investigation of alleged abuse in foster care.

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**Legislative Review Note**  
as of **1-11-10 9:44 AM**

**Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel**



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**H.B. 86 - Department of Human Services - Review and Oversight**

**Fiscal Note**

2010 General Session

State of Utah

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**State Impact**

Enactment of this bill will not require additional appropriations.

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**Individual, Business and/or Local Impact**

Enactment of this bill likely will not result in direct, measurable costs and/or benefits for individuals, businesses, or local governments.

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