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H.266

Introduced by Representatives Martin of Wolcott and Woodward of Johnson
Referred to Committee on
Date:
Subject: Human services; child welfare services; child abuse registry
Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to change the
standard for substantiation of child abuse from a reasonable person standard to
a preponderance of the evidence.

An act relating to the standard for substantiation of child abuse or neglect

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 33 V.S.A. § 4912 is amended to read:

§ 4912. DEFINITIONS

* * *

(10) “Substantiated report” means that the ~~commissioner or the~~
~~commissioner’s~~ Commissioner or designee has determined after investigation
that a report is based upon accurate and reliable information ~~that would lead a~~
~~reasonable person to believe~~ proving by a preponderance of the evidence that
the child has been abused or neglected.

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