



Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., Governor
James W. Payne, Director

Indiana Department of Child Services
Room E306 – MS47
302 W. Washington Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2739

317-232-4705
FAX: 317-232-4490

www.in.gov/dcs

Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline: 800-800-5556

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To: Regional Managers
Directors, Local Offices, Department of Child Services

From: James W. Payne, Director
Angela Green, Deputy Director Practice Support
Department of Child Services

Subject: Indicated Legislative Change 2009
DCS-09-05

The Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) has made great strides in the area of timeliness for completion of assessments to the policy standard of 30 days from the date the Preliminary Report of Alleged Child Abuse or Neglect is received. This administrative letter outlines a recent legislative change reflecting the repeal of IC 31-9-2-58.5, the indicated finding, during child abuse and neglect assessments. Below is a summary of the changes effective July 1, 2009.

A finding of indicated cannot be utilized on or after July 1, 2009. A finding of indicated made prior to July 1, 2009 will remain on the Child Protection Index (CPI) for the required one (1) year. However, if a new intake report is received involving the same family or alleged perpetrator, this will not extend the previous "indicated" finding for an additional six (6) months.

The DCS Child Welfare Policy Manual will be revised to reflect these important changes.

If you have any questions regarding these changes, please address them to the DCS policy mailbox at DCSPolicy@dcs.in.gov.

Sincerely,

James W. Payne, Director
Department of Child Services



Protecting our children, families and future