HB24–1046: Child Welfare System Tools

Majority Leader Duran & Representative Evans Senator Kolker & Senator Kirkmeyer

Child abuse and domestic violence are inextricably linked:

40% of child abuse victims report domestic violence in the home* and **30% to 60%** of domestic violence perpetrators also abuse children in the household**.

Stopping and preventing child abuse requires a holistic view of family violence. This bipartisan bill takes important steps to recognize the intersection of child abuse and domestic violence, and evaluates our child welfare system tools for improved data collection, cultural comptency and transparency.

HB24-1046 will:

- Develop a consistent screening process for counties to follow when responding to a report of child abuse, including screening for domestic violence
- Require mandatory reporters to report evidence of known domestic violence in the child's home
- Improve demographic data collection and follow best practices for cultural competency
- Conduct an audit of the Colorado family safety assessment and the Colorado family risk assessment

*Co-Occurring Intimate Partner Violence and Child Maltreatment. National Institute of Justice, 2006. **Behind Closed Doors: The Impact of Domestic Violence on Children. United Nations Children's Fund, 2009.

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