

S.F. No. 1671 – Children’s Mental Health Screening Information Collection; Updates to Public Guardianship Law

Author: Senator Bill Ingebrigtsen
Prepared by: Priyanka Premo, Senate Counsel (651/296-3317)
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Overview

[Laws 2020, chapter 86, article 1](#) made several changes to guardianship law (**chapter 524**), including modernizing terminology and requiring a consideration of less restrictive alternatives. **S.F. 1671** updates statutes governing public guardianships (**chapter 252A**) for persons with developmental disabilities to reflect changes made in 2020. This bill also makes changes to the collection of children’s mental health screening information.

Summary

Section 1 authorizes the commissioner of human services to collect individual child mental health screening information for the purposes of program evaluation and improvement.

Section 2 modifies the state’s policy on public guardianship of persons with developmental disabilities and requires that less restrictive alternatives are attempted and determined to be insufficient before a public guardianship is imposed.

Section 3 modifies the definition of “person with developmental disability.”

Section 4 modernizes terminology.

Section 5 modifies definition of “interested person.”

Section 6 makes conforming and clarifying changes.

Section 7 provides a definition for “protected person.”

Section 8 provides a definition for “respondent.”

Section 9 provides a definition for “supported decision making.”

Section 10 makes technical and conforming changes and requires the person subject to public guardianship be included in the process prior to the submission of the nomination.

Section 11-15 make technical and conforming changes.

Section 16 makes technical changes and clarifies that a stepparent of the person with a developmental disability may file a verified statement for appointment of a public guardian.

Section 17-46 make technical and conforming changes.