



Introduced Version

**HOUSE
RESOLUTION No. _____**

Introduced by: **Becker**

A HOUSE RESOLUTION Urging the Establishment of an Interim Study Committee to Investigate All Aspects of Child Abuse in Indiana.

Whereas, The United States Supreme Court has frequently emphasized the importance of the parent-child relationship;

Whereas, Children are Indiana's most precious resource;

Whereas, It is essential to provide for the health, safety, and well-being of Indiana's children;

Whereas, The state must strive to balance the privacy rights of its citizens with the need to protect children from abuse and neglect; and

Whereas, Sixty-five children died in Indiana from abuse



and neglect from July 1, 1997, through June 30, 1998, an increase of over 40% from the previous year: Therefore,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the
General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

SECTION 1. That the legislative council is urged to establish an interim study committee to investigate all aspects of child abuse in Indiana, including the role of law enforcement, how parental rights are affected, how to determine whether a child should be removed from the family home, how child abuse and neglect investigations are conducted, how long children typically remain out of the home, how adoptions are affected, and related matters.

SECTION 2. That the committee, if established, shall operate under the direction of the legislative council, and that the committee shall issue a final report when directed to do so by the council.

