

23 (20 ILCS 5/5-535) (was 20 ILCS 5/6.15)
24 Sec. 5-535. In the Department of Children and Family

1 Services. A Children and Family Services Advisory Council of 21
2 17 members, one of whom shall be a senior citizen age 60 or
3 over, appointed by the Governor. The Department of Children and
4 Family Services may involve the participation of additional
5 persons with specialized expertise to assist the Council in
6 specified tasks. The Council shall advise the Department with
7 respect to services and programs for individuals under the
8 Department of Children and Family Services' children and for
9 adults under its care, which may include, but is not limited
10 to: -

11 (1) reviewing the Department of Children and Family
12 Services' monitoring process for child care facilities and
13 child care institutions, as defined in Sections 2.05 and
14 2.06 of the Child Care Act of 1969;

15 (2) reviewing monitoring standards to address the
16 quality of life for youth in Department of Children and
17 Family Services' licensed child care facilities;

18 (3) assisting and making recommendations to establish
19 standards for monitoring the safety and well-being of youth
20 placed in Department of Children and Family Services'
21 licensed child care facilities and overseeing the
22 implementation of its recommendations;

23 (4) identifying areas of improvement in the quality of
24 investigations of allegations of child abuse or neglect in
25 Department of Children and Family Services' licensed child
26 care facilities and institutions and transitional living

1 programs;
2 (5) reviewing indicated and unfounded reports selected
3 at random or requested by the Council;
4 (6) reviewing a random sample of comprehensive call
5 data reports on (i) calls made to the Department of

6 Children and Family Services' statewide toll-free
7 telephone number established under Section 9.1a of the
8 Child Care Act of 1969 and (ii) calls made to the central
9 register established under Section 7.7 of the Abused and
10 Neglected Child Reporting Act through the State-wide,
11 toll-free telephone number established under Section 7.6
12 of the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act, including
13 those where investigations were not initiated; and
14 (7) preparing and providing recommendations that
15 identify areas of needed improvement regarding the
16 investigation of allegations of abuse and neglect to
17 children in Department of Children and Family Services'
18 licensed child care facilities and institutions and
19 transitional living programs, as well as needed changes to
20 existing laws, rules, and procedures of the Department of
21 Children and Family Services, and overseeing
22 implementation of its recommendations.

23 The Council's initial recommendations shall be filed with
24 the General Assembly and made available to the public no later
25 than March 1, 2017.

26 The Department of Children and Family Services shall

1 provide, upon request, all records and information in the
2 Department of Children and Family Services' possession
3 relevant to the Advisory Council's review. All documents, in
4 compliance with applicable privacy laws and redacted where
5 appropriate, concerning reports and investigations of child
6 abuse and neglect made available to members of the Advisory
7 Council and all records generated as a result of the reports
8 shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed, except as
9 specifically authorized by applicable law. It is a Class A
10 misdemeanor to permit, assist, or encourage the unauthorized
11 release of any information contained in reports or records and
12 these reports or records are not subject to the Freedom of
13 Information Act.

14 In appointing the first Council, 8 members shall be named
15 to serve 2 years, and 8 members named to serve 4 years. The
16 member first appointed under Public Act 83-1538 shall serve for
17 a term of 4 years. All members appointed thereafter shall be
18 appointed for terms of 4 years. Beginning July 1, 2015, the

19 Advisory Council shall include as appointed members at least
20 one youth from each of the Department of Children and Family
21 Services' regional youth advisory boards established pursuant
22 to Section 5 of the Department of Children and Family Services
23 Statewide Youth Advisory Board Act and at least 2 adult former
24 wards of the Department of Children and Family Services. At its
25 first meeting the Council shall select a chairperson ~~chairman~~
26 from among its members and appoint a committee to draft rules

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1 of procedure.

2 (Source: P.A. 91-239, eff. 1-1-00.)