



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

Department of Health & Human Services

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SOCIAL SERVICES BRANCH

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Grand Jury Report No. 2007 – HS - 01

Humboldt County School Systems

Finding 5: There is a failure on the part of Child Welfare Services (CWS) to enforce available Legislation that encourages parents or caregivers to assure their children attend school as prescribed by law.

Response: Disagree. Child Welfare Services (CWS) uses applicable legislation to encourage parents or caregivers to assure their children attend school. The Education Code cited does not provide authority to CWS that would allow CWS to take action against parents who refuse to make their children attend school.

CWS recognizes the paramount importance of school attendance for all children. While truancy alone would not permit a CWS investigation, CWS makes every effort to extract information regarding the issue of truancy if the reporter suspects the reason for the school absence may be due to issues of abuse or neglect.

Recommendation 5: That CWS use all applicable legislation to encourage parents to assure children are in compliance with the California Education Code.

Response: The recommendation is not warranted because CWS complies with legal requirements using all applicable legislation to encourage parents to assure their children attend school.