

**39-1409. Same; assistance of appropriate public or private agencies, groups or individuals.** In performing the duties set forth in this act, the secretary for children and families, the secretary of health and environment, the secretary for aging and disability services or an appropriate law enforcement agency may request the assistance of the staffs and resources of all appropriate state departments, agencies and commissions and local health departments and may utilize any other public or private agency, group or individual who is appropriate and who may be available to assist such department or agency in the investigation and determination of whether a resident is being, or has been, abused, neglected or exploited or is in a condition which is a result of such abuse, neglect or exploitation, except that any internal investigation conducted by any caretaker under investigation shall be limited to the least serious category of report as specified by the secretary of health and environment, the secretary for aging and disability services or the secretary for children and families, as applicable.

**History:** L. 1980, ch. 124, § 9; L. 1990, ch. 153, § 8; L. 1998, ch. 200, § 7; L. 2003, ch. 91, § 10; L. 2003, ch. 149, § 30; L. 2014, ch. 115, § 164; July 1.