A. Policy Description

This is a proposal to develop a University Policy that would provide for certain protections of minors who are present on a CSU campus or involved in CSU programs. It would include children who are participating in sports camps, Campus Corps, and similar programs, as well as those who are just visiting CSU, and would require adequate supervision, avoidance of high-risk areas, and mandatory reporting by CSU employees of any suspected abuse or neglect (for example, sexual abuse).

B. Basis

It is now over 4 years since the nation was shocked by the Penn State child abuse scandal. Since that time, it has become standard practice for institutions of higher education to have clear policies and procedures for preventing, reporting and responding to incidents of sexual abuse and other kinds of injuries to children. CSU’s many programs involving interactions with children have, in many cases, their own guidelines and policies, but there is no overarching policy making it clear that CSU has a high level of concern for the safety and welfare of minors who come within our custody or control, and no binding policy requiring that suspected abuse or injury be reported. CSU needs a policy in order to send a strong message to the campus community, while leaving flexibility and discretion to departments to establish more detailed guidelines and procedures, as appropriate to their programs.

C. Required Resources:

It is not anticipated that any new resources will be required for any campus unit or individual to implement and follow the proposed policy. The Office of Support and Safety Assessment, in the Division of Student Affairs, will act as the lead unit for policy
implementation and communication, but does not anticipate that additional FTE or direct cost expenditures will be required.

D. **Anticipated Impacts:**

If adopted, the proposed policy will apply to all CSU faculty, staff, and students, as well as agents and contractors of the University. The university’s expectation would be that all of these constituents know and follow the policy’s requirements. However, we do not anticipate that any campus business unit, nor any individual, will be required to expend funds, modify systems or processes, or incur any particular administrative burden.

E. **Policy Development:**

Policy development will be supported by representatives from the following departments:

- Office of Support and Safety Assessment
- Athletics
- School of Social Work
- Health & Exercise Science
- Early Childhood Center
- Human Development and Family Studies
- Housing & Dining Services
- Conference Services
- Extension
- Little Shop of Physics

F. **Stakeholder Input:**

Stakeholder input will be solicited from the campus community generally, including campus employee councils, college/division Business Officers, and Deans, Department Heads and Directors.

G. **Administrative/Management Assessment:**

The policy will be administered on an ongoing basis by the Office of Support and Safety Assessment in the Division of Student Affairs.

H. **Procedures, Guidelines and Forms:**

Specific procedures, guidelines and forms may be developed by individual programs that regularly include minor children. It appears unlikely that procedures, guidelines or forms will be needed for use campus-wide, but this will be considered during policy development.

I. **Internal Controls:**

Internal controls may include audits of departments’ compliance with existing background check requirements, tracking of incidents and complaints by Support and Safety Assessment and (where applicable) CSUPD, and reporting to the Vice President for Student Affairs on a periodic and as-needed basis.
REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY THE PRESIDENT'S CABINET:

☑  APPROVED TO PROCEED TO POLICY DEVELOPMENT
☐  NOT APPROVED
☐  MORE INFORMATION NEEDED: Click here to enter text.

By:  Original signature on file

Amy Parsons
Vice President for University Operations

Date:  /signed /by Amy Parsons, December 19, 2014