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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Christine Arbo Peck.

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DIGEST

SB 66 Engrossed

2017 Regular Session

Barrow

Proposed law extends the termination date of the Children's Cabinet from August 15, 2018, to August 1, 2022, and provides for recommendations for programs to reduce child poverty.

Proposed law repeals the Child Poverty Prevention Council and transfers fulfillment of its mission to the Children's Cabinet Advisory Board.

Present law establishes the Children's Trust Fund in the Department of Children and Family Services and creates a board to administer the fund.

Proposed law transfers the Children's Trust Fund from the Department of Children and Family Services to the office of the governor and makes them answerable to the Children's Cabinet. Proposed law transfers all responsibilities of the fund to the Children's Cabinet and establishes advisory responsibilities for the board with final decision making authority by the Children's Cabinet.

Effective August 1, 2017.

(Amends R.S. 46:2605(A)(6) and 2607; adds R.S. 46:2605(A)(7); repeals R.S. 46:2801)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill

1. Transfers the Children's Trust Fund and the Children's Trust Fund board from the Department of Children and Family Services to the office of the governor and makes them answerable to the Children's Cabinet.
2. Establishes a process whereby programs receiving funding from the Children's Trust Fund are determined based on a nonbiased scoring system by a volunteer grant reviewer and recommendation by the board.
3. Removes the assistant secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services as a trust fund board member and includes the executive director of the Children's Cabinet or his designee.
4. Deletes the requirement that budget requests of the board shall be presented to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget.

5. Requires the cabinet to submit their comprehensive state plan to the governor, president of the Senate and speaker of the House every five years beginning on January 1, 2018, and requires a minimum of annual review by the cabinet for necessary changes.
6. Provides that the cabinet has final approval on all grant awards.