
DIGEST

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HB 520 Engrossed

2018 Regular Session

Johnson

Abstract: Provides relative to the confidentiality of records of reports of child abuse or neglect.

Present law requires records of child abuse or neglect to be confidential, but permits the La. Dept. of Children and Family Services to promulgate rules regarding the release of such information in the central registry.

Proposed law removes the language requiring the La. Dept. of Children and Family Services to promulgate rules regarding the release of child abuse or neglect reports in the central registry.

Proposed law incorporates changes to present law proposed by Act No. 348 of the 2017 R.S. regarding the confidentiality of the identity of an alleged perpetrator of child abuse or neglect. Proposed law adds that the La. Dept. of Children and Family Services is required to provide otherwise confidential information to the court or district attorney's office when necessary for the court to protect a child from abuse or neglect.

Proposed law adds that the La. Dept of Children and Family Services is required to provide otherwise confidential informational involving open or completed investigations of child abuse or neglect to other states' child welfare agencies upon written request when requests are made pursuant to ongoing investigations.

(Amends Ch.C. Art. 616(B); Repeals Ch.C. Art. 616(B) as amended and reenacted by Act No. 348 of the 2017 R.S.)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill:

1. Remove language requiring the La. Dept. of Children and Family Services to promulgate rules regarding the release of child abuse or neglect reports in the central registry.
2. Add that the La. Dept. of Children and Family Services release confidential information involving child abuse or neglect investigations to other states' child welfare agencies upon written request.