

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 195 (HB 451)

2025 Regular Session

Bacala

Existing law provides a list of mandatory reporters of child abuse that includes police officers and law enforcement officials.

Prior law provided that a police officer or law enforcement official who works as a school resource officer was considered a mandatory reporter.

Prior law also provided that a school resource officer could not receive information from another mandatory reporter or commence or oversee any investigation into a report.

New law repeals prior law.

Existing law defines "teaching or child care provider".

New law removes school resource officers from the definition of "teaching or child care provider".

Existing law provides for the instances when a mandatory reporter is required to report child abuse or neglect to law enforcement or to the Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS).

New law provides that if a school resource officer suspects child abuse or neglect or receives a report of child abuse or neglect, the school resource officer shall immediately report the suspected child abuse or neglect to the officer's employing law enforcement agency or to DCFS in accordance with existing law.

New law requires the school resource officer's employer to assign investigation of the matter to the most appropriate law enforcement officer, who may be the school resource officer.

Effective August 1, 2025.

(Amends Ch.C. Arts. 603(17)(d) and (e) and 610(A)(3) and (4); Adds Ch.C. Art. 610(A)(5))