
DIGEST

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HB 897 Original

2026 Regular Session

Mandie Landry

Abstract: Provides for the protection of data for individual utilizing services provided by the Louisiana Pregnancy and Baby Care Initiative.

Present law creates the Louisiana Pregnancy and Baby Care Initiative within the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) as a statewide program to promote childbirth and provide pregnancy, parenting, and adoption support services.

Present law makes services available to pregnant women, biological fathers of unborn children, parents or guardians of children up to 36 months old, participants who have experienced the loss of a child, and immediate family members of participating parents.

Present law requires the department to contract with a single nonprofit organization to serve as general contractor to manage the program and subcontract with existing nonprofit providers on a fee-for-service basis and prohibits the general contractor from providing direct client services.

Present law limits program-funded services to counseling or mentoring, referrals, educational classes, and material assistance intended to improve pregnancy or parenting outcomes.

Proposed law prohibits the general contractor and subcontractors from disclosing a client's name or protected health information without the client's written permission for the specific disclosure.

Proposed law requires the general contractor and subcontractors, before obtaining written consent, to provide a clear privacy notice explaining the purpose of the disclosure, the specific information to be disclosed, and the third parties who may receive the information.

Proposed law requires the general contractor and subcontractors to provide a simple method for clients to revoke consent to disclose their information.

Proposed law requires the general contractor and subcontractors to provide a client, upon request and at no cost, a copy of all records possessed by the contractor within ten business days.

Proposed law allows the disclosure of aggregated or de-identified information that maintains client confidentiality.

Proposed law authorizes DCFS to treat violations of these confidentiality provisions as grounds for

contract ineligibility, suspension, termination, or nonrenewal.

Proposed law requires that any enforcement action be taken in accordance with applicable state contracting laws, including notice and an opportunity to cure or respond.

(Adds R.S.46:972.1(G) and (H))