

2026 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 396

BY SENATOR CLOUD

JUVENILE JUSTICE. Provides that children in custody of the office of juvenile justice may attend review hearings via secure video conference. (8/1/26)

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact Children's Code Art. 906(B)(1) and (3), relative to the office of juvenile justice; to require review hearings via secure video conference; to reclassify detention centers; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Children's Code Art. 906(B)(1) and (3) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

Art. 906. Required review hearings; commitment; children in custody of the office of juvenile justice

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B. (1) Any child committed by a court to the custody of the office of juvenile justice ~~must be physically transported to the committing court for an in-person~~ **shall participate in a** review hearing **via a video conferencing platform** not more than six months after the child's commitment, and at least every six months thereafter, unless such ~~an in-person~~ hearing is waived by counsel for the child and by the committing court. The date of the initial review hearing shall be set by the court at the time of disposition. **Office of juvenile justice staff and contract staff shall**

