

**ACT No. 582**

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1198

BY REPRESENTATIVE AMEDEE

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 9:4216 and R.S. 13:1805(C) and to enact R.S. 13:1805(D),  
3 relative to child custody; to provide relative to public policy; to provide relative to  
4 arbitration of child custody matters; to provide relative to child custody agreements  
5 from foreign countries; to provide relative to fundamental constitutional rights; and  
6 to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 9:4216 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

9 §4216. Limitation of application of Chapter

10 A. Nothing contained in this Chapter shall apply applies to contracts of  
11 employment of labor or to contracts for arbitration which are controlled by valid  
12 legislation of the United States or to contracts made prior to July 28, 1948.

13 B. Nothing contained in this Chapter applies to contracts mandating  
14 arbitration of child custody or visitation.

15 C. Arbitration of child custody or visitation is against the public policy of  
16 this state. Any provision of an agreement to arbitrate that mandates the arbitration  
17 of child custody or visitation is void and unenforceable.

18 D. No court in the state shall recognize or enforce any arbitral award  
19 governing child custody or visitation.

