

---

 DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

---

SB 151 Reengrossed

2021 Regular Session

Barrow

Proposed law enacts a "Foster Youth's Bill of Rights" to be implemented through the policies and practices of the Department of Children and Family Services for certain youth in foster care in the state.

Proposed law enumerates rights for youth in foster care who are ages 14-18 involving privacy; participation in planning for care including attending court hearings and case plan meetings; a stable and supportive setting free from neglect, abuse, exploitation, or discrimination; having medical and mental health needs met on a regular and timely basis; meeting with the youth's caseworker, attorney, and CASA volunteer; access to materials necessary for school and to further the youth's education; extracurricular activities; the youth's cultural, religious, and ethnic traditions and belief systems; participation in the Independent Living Skills Program within the youth's region; and the expression and voicing of the youth's needs, concerns, and desires about foster care.

Proposed law provides that it shall be known as "The Louisiana Elite Advocacy Force Act" or "The LEAF Act".

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 46:286.16)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill

1. Prohibits discrimination of any kind on the basis of the child's or his parent's race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national, ethnic, or social origin, property, disability, birth, or other status.

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Names the Act "The Louisiana Elite Advocacy Force Act" or "The LEAF Act".

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Revise proposed law providing for the right of a foster youth to be free from discrimination by deleting a reference to the race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national, ethnic, or social origin, property, disability, birth, or other status of a parent.
2. Make a technical change.