

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 335

BY REPRESENTATIVE CARVER

CHILDREN/ABUSE: Provides relative to mandatory reporters of child abuse

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact Children's Code Articles 603(17)(d), 609(A)(3)(a), and 610(A)(1),
3 relative to mandatory reporting of child abuse or neglect; to provide for definitions;
4 to provide for mandatory reporters who are teaching or child care providers; to
5 provide for mandatory reporting procedures and training requirements; and to
6 provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. Children's Code Articles 603(17)(d), 609(A)(3)(a), and 610(A)(1) are
9 hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

10 Art. 603. Definitions

11 As used in this Title:

12 * * *

13 (17) "Mandatory reporter" is any of the following individuals:

14 * * *

15 (d) "Teaching or child care provider" is any person who provides or assists
16 in the teaching, training and supervision of a child, including any public or private
17 teacher, teacher's aide, instructional aide, school principal, school staff member, bus
18 driver, coach, professor, technical or vocational instructor, technical or vocational
19 school staff member, college or university administrator, college or university staff
20 member, social worker, probation officer, foster home parent, group home or other

1 child care institutional staff member, personnel of residential home facilities, a
2 licensed or unlicensed day care provider, or any individual who provides ~~such~~ these
3 services to a child in a voluntary or professional capacity.

4 * * *

5 Art. 609. Mandatory and permitted reporting; training requirements

6 A.

7 * * *

8 (3)(a) To familiarize mandatory reporters, as defined by Children's Code
9 Article 603, with their legal mandate for reporting suspected child abuse and neglect,
10 ~~such~~ all mandatory reporters shall be offered training on the statutory requirements
11 and responsibility of reporting child abuse and neglect. This training shall be made
12 available by the child welfare division of the Department of Children and Family
13 Services or any other mechanism as approved by the department as long as it
14 includes information on the reporting procedure and the consequences of failing to
15 report.

16 * * *

17 Art. 610. Reporting procedure; reports to the legislature and the United States
18 Department of Defense Family Advocacy Program

19 A.(1) Reports of child abuse or neglect or that ~~such~~ the abuse or neglect was
20 a contributing factor in a child's death, where the abuser is believed to be a parent or
21 caretaker, a person who maintains an interpersonal dating or engagement relationship
22 with the parent or caretaker, or a person living in the same residence with the parent
23 or caretaker as a spouse whether married or not, shall be made immediately to the
24 department. A permitted reporter shall make a report through the designated state
25 child protection reporting hotline telephone number or in person at any child welfare
26 office. A mandatory reporter shall make a report through the designated state child
27 protection reporting hotline telephone number, via the Louisiana Department of
28 Children and Family Services Mandated Reporter Portal online, or in person at any
29 child welfare office. Reports in which the abuse or neglect is believed to be

