

BY REPRESENTATIVE BURRELL AND SENATOR JACKSON

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 46:2138 and Children's Code Article 1566, relative to domestic  
3 abuse assistance; to provide for petitions for protective orders; to authorize clerical  
4 assistance by domestic violence advocates; to provide for definitions; and to provide  
5 for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7           Section 1. R.S. 46:2138 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

8           §2138. Assistance; of clerk of court; domestic abuse advocate

9                   A. The clerk of court shall make forms available for making application for  
10                   protective orders under this Part, provide clerical assistance to the petitioner when  
11                   necessary, advise indigent applicants of the availability of filing in forma pauperis,  
12                   provide the necessary forms, as supplied by the judicial administrator's office,  
13                   Louisiana Supreme Court, and provide the services of a notary, where available, for  
14                   completion of the affidavit required in R.S. 46:2134(D).

15 B. Domestic abuse advocates may provide clerical assistance to petitioners  
16 in making an application for a protective order in accordance with this Part.

17 C. For purposes of this Section, "domestic abuse advocate" means an  
18 employee or representative of a community based shelter providing services to  
19 victims of family violence or domestic abuse.

20                   Section 2. Children's Code Article 1566 is hereby amended and reenacted to read  
21                   as follows:

22 Art. 1566. Assistance; of clerk of court; domestic abuse advocate

23                   A. The clerk of court shall make forms available for making application for  
24                   protective orders under this Chapter, provide clerical assistance to the petitioner

1           when necessary, advise indigent applicants of the availability of filing in forma  
 2           pauperis, provide the necessary forms, and provide the services of a notary, where  
 3           available, for completion of the affidavit required in Article 1568. The forms shall  
 4           be prepared by the Judicial Administrator's Office, Louisiana Supreme Court.

5                     B. Domestic abuse advocates may provide clerical assistance to petitioners  
 6                     in making an application for a protective order in accordance with this Chapter.

7                     C. For purposes of this Article, "domestic abuse advocate" means an  
 8                     employee or representative of a community based shelter providing services to  
 9                     victims of family violence or domestic abuse.

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 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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 PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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 GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_