
The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Cathy R. Wells.

DIGEST

Present law provides for proceedings, records, and reports before juvenile courts to be confidential, except for certain delinquency proceedings, child support proceedings, traffic violations in East Baton Rouge Parish, and certain misdemeanor trials of adults.

Proposed law retains present law and extends confidentiality exception to include all juvenile delinquency proceedings.

Present law authorizes the child, his parents, counsel, the district attorney, authorized officials of the court, and witnesses called by the parties to be present at a juvenile adjudication hearing.

Present law further requires all proceedings in a juvenile delinquency case involving a crime of violence as defined in R.S. 14:2(B) or a delinquent act which is a second or subsequent felony-grade adjudication to be open to the public. Present law requires the court to allow the victim, the victim's spouse, children, siblings, parents, grandparents, guardians, and legal custodians to attend juvenile delinquency adjudication proceedings involving the violation of first degree murder, second degree murder, aggravated rape, aggravated kidnapping, armed robbery, negligent homicide, or vehicular homicide.

Proposed law requires all proceedings in a juvenile delinquency adjudication to be open to the public.

Effective August 1, 2012.

(Amends Ch.C. Art. 407(A), 412(A) and 879)