

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE BILL NO. 557

BY REPRESENTATIVE WILLMOTT

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

CHILDREN/ABUSE: Requires training be made available for mandatory reporters

1 AN ACT

2 To enact Children's Code Article 609(A)(3), relative to mandatory reporting of child abuse;
3 to require that mandatory reporters receive training on mandatory reporting laws; to
4 exempt certain nonprofit entities and hospitals; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. Children's Code Article 609(A)(3) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

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

8 A. With respect to mandatory reporters:

9 * * *

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

18 (b) All mandatory reporters are responsible for periodically obtaining
19 mandatory reporter training.

1 (c) No employee of or volunteer for an entity designated as nonprofit by the
2 Internal Revenue Service under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code or any
3 hospital shall be required to receive any training mandated by this Paragraph if the
4 nonprofit entity or hospital regularly conducts equivalent training.

5 * * *

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)]

Willmott

HB No. 557

Abstract: Requires that training be made available for mandatory reporters on mandatory reporting laws and the consequences of failing to report.

Proposed law establishes training for all mandatory reporters, as defined by present law, to familiarize these reporters with their legal mandate for reporting suspected child abuse and neglect. Specifies that said training must be made available by the child welfare division of the Dept. of Children and Family Services or any other mechanism as approved by the department as long as it includes information on the reporting procedure and consequences of failing to report.

Proposed law specifies that all mandatory reporters are responsible for periodically obtaining mandated reporter training.

Proposed law exempts any employee of or volunteer for an entity designated as nonprofit by the IRS or any hospital if the nonprofit entity or hospital regularly conducts equivalent training.

(Adds Ch. C. Art. 609(A)(3))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Exempted from mandatory training any employee of or volunteer for an entity designated as nonprofit by the IRS or any hospital if the nonprofit entity or hospital regularly conducts equivalent training.