
DIGEST

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HB 420 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Berault

Abstract: Provides for employment standards of employees of the Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS).

Present law provides for the authority of the secretary of DCFS.

Proposed law modifies present law by adding that the secretary has the authority to conduct criminal background checks and searches of the state central registry of substantiated abuse or neglect (central registry) on all current and prospective employees of DCFS in accordance with proposed law.

Present law provides that no person shall be hired by DCFS for duties including the investigation of child abuse or neglect, supervisory or disciplinary authority over children, direct care of a child, or performance of licensing surveys until the employee has submitted to a criminal background check and DCFS has inspected the central registry for the employee's name.

Present law provides that any employee of DCFS whose duties include the investigation of child abuse or neglect, supervisory or disciplinary authority over children, direct care of a child, or performance of licensing surveys whose name is found on the central registry shall be terminated except that a permanent classified employee shall not be terminated until he has exhausted his administrative appeal rights pursuant to present law.

Proposed law extends the requirements of present law to all employees of DCFS.

(Amends R.S. 36:474(B)(1)(a)(intro. para.) and R.S. 46:51.2(A)(1)(intro. para.) and (2); Adds R.S. 36:474(B)(1)(a)(iv))