

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 870 (HB 1052)

2026 Regular Session

Spell

Existing law (R.S. 15:440.8) provides for confidentiality of files, reports, records, communications, working papers, or videotaped interviews used or developed by child advocacy centers in providing services to families.

New law amends existing law to make a technical change to a cross-reference.

Existing law (R.S. 44:4.1) provides for public records exceptions.

New law generally retains existing law and adds a cross-reference to the public record exceptions provided in new law.

Existing law (Ch.C. Art. 513) provides for confidentiality policies relative to multidisciplinary investigations of child abuse and neglect.

New law requires each multidisciplinary investigative team to adopt and adhere to a written confidentiality policy governing information obtained in the course of child abuse and neglect investigations.

New law requires that the policy ensure that information is shared only among authorized participants for the purposes of investigation, assessment, prosecution, and treatment. Further provides that all work product generated by a multidisciplinary investigative team is subject to the protections provided in proposed law.

Existing law (Ch.C. Art. 525) provides for confidentiality policies relative to child advocacy centers.

New law requires each child advocacy center to adopt and enforce a written confidentiality policy consistent with state and federal law. Further provides that information maintained by a child advocacy center is confidential and requires disclosure only as necessary to carry out the purposes of the center.

New law provides that all confidential information that is generated or maintained by a child advocacy center is subject to the protections provided in new law.

New law defines the term "confidential information". Further provides that confidential information is confidential and is not subject to any public records requests, subpoena, discovery, or disclosure except as provided in new law.

New law provides for circumstances when confidential information may be shared in de-identified or aggregate form.

New law provides that confidential information is privileged and protected from disclosure in child custody, civil, criminal, and administrative proceedings, except as authorized by new law.

New law provides that the protection of new law is applicable only to agencies and individuals acting under formal multidisciplinary agreements.

New law does not limit the disclosure of independently obtained evidence, the authority of law enforcement, or the constitutional rights of a defendant.

New law (Ch.C. Art. 545) provides for the confidentiality of information that is disclosed pursuant to an interagency information sharing agreement.

New law provides that information shared pursuant to existing law is confidential and that the confidentiality provisions of existing law (Ch.C. Art. 545) include the protections provided in new law.

Effective upon signature of governor (June 5, 2026).

(Amends R.S. 15:440.8, R.S. 44:4.1(B)(40), and Ch.C. Art. 513; Adds Ch.C. Arts. 525(C), 525.1, and 545(C))