

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)]

SB 66 Engrossed

2017 Regular Session

Barrow

Present law creates the Children's Cabinet and the Children's Cabinet Advisory Board. Proposed law adds a representative of the La. Policy Institute for Children as a member of the board.

Proposed law extends the termination date of the Children's Cabinet from August 15, 2018, to August 1, 2022.

Proposed law repeals present law creating the Child Poverty Prevention Council for Louisiana, and provides that the Children's Cabinet Advisory Board is responsible for making recommendations concerning programs to reduce child poverty.

Present law establishes the Children's Trust Fund in the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and creates a board to administer the fund. Proposed law makes the following changes to present law:

- (1) Transfers the Children's Trust Fund from DCFS to the office of the governor and places administration of the trust fund within the Children's Cabinet.
- (2) Repeals the Community-based Family Center pilot program of the Children's Trust Fund board.

Proposed law establishes advisory responsibilities for the Children's Trust Fund board and provides that final decision-making authority concerning activities of the trust fund is vested in the Children's Cabinet.

Proposed law requires that on or before August 1, 2019, the Children's Trust Fund coordinator and the executive director of the Children's Cabinet shall prepare and submit to the legislative committees on health and welfare a comparative analysis and report concerning the operations of the trust fund during the period prior to, and during the period after, the transfer of the fund from within DCFS to the Children's Cabinet pursuant to proposed law.

Effective August 1, 2017.

(Amends R.S. 36:4(B)(8) and R.S. 46:2402(3) and (6), 2403(A), (D)(1) and (E), 2404(A), (B)(1) and (2), and (G), 2405, 2406(A), (B), (D)-(G), 2407, 2605(A)(6), and 2607; Adds R.S. 46:2404(H), 2405.1, 2603(A)(7), and 2605(A)(7) and (B)(17); Repeals R.S. 36:478(F) and (K) and 802.9 and R.S. 46:450.4 and 2801))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

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

1. Transfers the Children's Trust Fund and the Children's Trust Fund board from the Department of Children and Family Services to the office of the governor and makes them answerable to the Children's Cabinet.

2. Establishes a process whereby programs receiving funding from the Children's Trust Fund are determined based on a nonbiased scoring system by a volunteer grant reviewer and recommendation by the board.
3. Removes the assistant secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services as a trust fund board member and includes the executive director of the Children's Cabinet or his designee.
4. Deletes the requirement that budget requests of the board shall be presented to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget.
5. Requires the cabinet to submit their comprehensive state plan to the governor, president of the Senate and speaker of the House every five years beginning on January 1, 2018, and requires a minimum of annual review by the cabinet for necessary changes.
6. Provides that the cabinet has final approval on all grant awards.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the engrossed bill:

1. Add a representative of the La. Policy Institute for Children as a member of the Children's Cabinet Advisory Board.
2. Require that on or before August 1, 2019, the Children's Trust Fund coordinator and the executive director of the Children's Cabinet shall prepare and submit to the legislative committees on health and welfare a comparative analysis and report concerning the operations of the trust fund during the period prior to, and during the period after, the transfer of the fund from within the Dept. of Children and Family Services to the Children's Cabinet pursuant to proposed law.
3. Make technical, corrective, and clarifying changes.