

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 556 (HB 520)

2018 Regular Session

Johnson

Prior law required records of child abuse or neglect to be confidential, but permitted the Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to promulgate rules regarding the release of such information in the central registry.

New law removes the language requiring DCFS to promulgate rules regarding the release of child abuse or neglect reports in the central registry.

New law incorporates changes to existing law proposed by Act No. 348 of the 2017 R.S. regarding the confidentiality of the identity of an alleged perpetrator of child abuse or neglect. New law adds that DCFS is required to provide otherwise confidential information to the court or district attorney's office when necessary for the court to protect a child from abuse or neglect.

New law adds that DCFS is required to provide otherwise confidential informational involving open or completed investigations of child abuse or neglect to other states' child welfare agencies upon written request when requests are made pursuant to ongoing investigations.

Effective upon the adoption and publication of rules and regulations by the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services.

(Amends Ch.C. Art. 616(B); Repeals Ch.C. Art. 616(B) as amended and reenacted by Act No. 348 of the 2017 R.S.)