
DIGEST

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HB 474 Original

2020 Regular Session

Freeman

Abstract: Requires annual training on mandatory reporting requirements for teachers and child care providers.

Present law requires certain persons, defined as mandatory reporters, to report to the Dept. of Children and Family Services or to law enforcement when the person has cause to believe that a child's physical or mental health is endangered as a result of abuse or neglect.

Present law provides for a list of persons who are defined as mandatory reporters including "teachers and child care providers".

Present law requires the Dept. of Children and Family Services to provide training on the statutory requirements and responsibility of reporting child abuse and neglect including the consequences of the failure to report.

Present law requires every person graduating from any teacher preparation program in La. to have had in his curriculum instruction on the requirements of and how to report suspected child abuse cases pursuant to present law, as well as instruction on how to identify the signs and symptoms of child neglect and abuse, including sexual abuse, in order to receive his teacher certification.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that beginning Aug. 1, 2020, within the first two weeks after the first day of each new school year, teaching and child care providers as defined by present law are required to complete an online training course provided by the Dept. of Children and Family Services. Proposed law further requires a record of completion of the course by the teacher or child care provider to be provided to and retained by each entity at which the teacher or child care provider is employed, and requires the entity to retain a list of those teachers or child care providers who have not complied with the proposed law training requirements.

(Amends Ch.C. Art. 603.1)