The original instrument was prepared by Brandi Cannon. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Cheryl Serrett.

DIGEST

SB 63 Re-Reengrossed

2022 Regular Session

Mizell

Present law provides for reports of child abuse or neglect where the abuser is believed to be a parent or caretaker, a person who maintains an interpersonal dating or engagement relationship with the parent or caretaker, or a person living in the same residence with the parent or caretaker as a spouse whether married or not to be made to the Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS). Further provides that all other reports are to be made to a local or state law enforcement agency.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that if a report involves alleged sex trafficking, the provisions of proposed law also apply and all mandatory reporters shall report to DCFS regardless of whether there is alleged parental or caretaker culpability.

Proposed law provides that DCFS shall communicate as soon as possible all reports involving alleged child victims of sex trafficking to the La. State Police for referral to local law enforcement.

Present law provides for the duties and responsibilities of DCFS to administer the public assistance laws of the state.

Proposed law retains present law duties of DCFS and adds the responsibility to make care coordination and advocacy services available for victims of child sex trafficking.

Proposed law describes the services that may be provided as care coordination and advocacy services.

Effective January 1, 2023.

(Amends Ch.C. Art 610(A)(1); adds Ch.C. Art. 610(E)(4) and R.S. 46:51(16))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

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

- 1. Requires mandatory reporters to report all alleged child victims of sex trafficking.
- 2. Requires DCFS to report to the LSP.
- 3. Allows DCFS to delegate its duties under proposed law.

- 4. Provides for optional services for parents who have no culpability.
- 5. Changes the effective date.
- 6. Makes technical changes.

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Finance to the engrossed bill

- 1. Removes required actions by DCFS when a child has been identified as a victim of sex trafficking.
- 2. Removes provisions authorizing DCFS to delegate the performance of required actions relative to child victims of sex trafficking.
- 3. Removes DCFS rulemaking requirement.
- 4. Adds making care coordination and advocacy services available for victims of child sex trafficking to duties of DCFS and describes these services.

Senate Floor Amendments to reengrossed bill

1. Makes technical changes.