



Proposed law provides that the state child advocate shall have access to any records necessary to carry out the duties and responsibilities of the Office of Child Advocacy.

Proposed law for confidentiality for conversations between the state child advocate and any child or person who has received, is receiving, or should have received services from the state. Proposed law also provides for the confidentiality of personally identifiable information of a person who makes a complaint to the Office of Child Advocacy, all information obtained or generated by the office in the course of an investigation, and all confidential records obtained by the state child advocate or a designee. Proposed law further provides that certain confidential information may be disclosed if the state child advocate determines that disclosure is in the general public interest or necessary to enable the state child advocate to perform his duties and responsibilities.

Proposed law provides that no state agency or entity providing publicly funded services shall discharge, or in any manner discriminate or retaliate against, any employee who in good faith makes a complaint to the state child advocate or cooperates with the Office of Child Advocacy in an investigation.

Effective August 1, 2023.

(Amends R.S. 44:4.1(B)(34); adds R.S. 36:4.1(C)(16), R.S. 40:2019(C)(23), and R.S. 49:210.1)