

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 501

BY REPRESENTATIVE PHELPS

CHILDREN: Provides relative to truant children

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact Children's Code Articles 743(B) and 744(A) and to enact Children's  
3 Code Article 743(C), relative to truant children; to provide for a mandatory  
4 conference prior to appearance; to provide relative to the informal family plan; and  
5 to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. Children's Code Articles 743(B) and 744(A) are hereby amended and  
8 reenacted and Children's Code Article 743(C) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 Art. 743. Mandatory conference

10 \* \* \*

11 B. This conference may be held at any time before or after a petition is filed  
12 ~~but shall~~ and may be held before any appearance to answer is made.

13 C. If the preadjudication conference provided by Article 744 is held prior to  
14 appearance, the court shall recognize the conference as satisfied in order to move to  
15 appearance to answer.

16 Art. 744. Informal family services plan agreement

17 A. ~~After~~ At any time prior to or after any preadjudication conference, the  
18 child, his caretakers, and any service provider may effect an informal family services  
19 plan agreement.

20 \* \* \*

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**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)]

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HB 501 Engrossed

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**Abstract:** Provides relative to truant children and family in need of services proceedings.

Present law (Ch.C. Art. 743) provides that the mandatory conference may be held at any time before or after a petition is filed but shall be held before any appearance to answer is made.

Proposed law retains present law but provides that the conference may be held before any appearance to answer is made.

Proposed law (Ch.C. Art. 743(C)) provides that if the preadjudication conference provided by Article 744 is held prior to appearance, the court shall recognize the conference as satisfied in order to move to appearance to answer.

Present law (Ch.C. Art. 744) provides that after any preadjudication conference, any provider may effect an informal family services plan agreement.

Proposed law retains present law but provides that the provider may effect an informal family services plan agreement at any time prior to or after any preadjudication conference.

(Amends Ch.C. Arts. 743(B) and 744(A); Adds Ch.C. Art. 743(C))