

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1224

BY REPRESENTATIVE MCMAKIN

CHILDREN: Provides with respect to children in need of care

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact Children's Code Article 606(A)(6) and 610(A)(3) and to enact  
3 Children's Code Article 603.2, relative to children in need of care; to provide for  
4 definitions; to provide for reporting abuse of children; to provide for pregnant  
5 children under fourteen years of age; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. Children's Code Article 606(A)(6) and 610(A)(3) are hereby amended and  
8 reenacted and Children's Code Article 603.2 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 Art. 603.2 Pregnancy of a child; service eligibility

10 A. Upon receipt of a report that a child fourteen years of age or younger is  
11 pregnant, the department shall initiate a safety assessment in accordance with its  
12 child protection procedures.

13 B. A child who is seventeen years of age or younger who is pregnant shall  
14 be eligible for services provided by the department, including but not limited to  
15 medical coordination, counseling, case management, and protective supervision as  
16 warranted.

17 C. Nothing in this Article shall require the filing of a petition pursuant to  
18 Article 631 unless independent grounds exist pursuant to Article 606.

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20 Art. 606. Grounds; child in need of care



Present law provides for reporting procedures to the Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and to law enforcement and for the reporting of child-specific information to the legislature.

Proposed law includes that the pregnancy of children 14 years or younger shall be reported to DCFS.

Proposed law provides for the initiation of safety assessments for reported pregnant children that are 14 years old and under.

Proposed law provides that a pregnant child that is 17 of age or younger shall be eligible for services provided by the department, including but not limited to medical coordination, counseling, case management, and protective supervision.

(Amends Ch. C. Arts. 606(A)(6) and 610(A)(3); Adds Ch. C. Art. 603.2)