

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 421

BY REPRESENTATIVE RITCHIE

FAMILY LAW: Provides relative to court-ordered treatment programs required for a parent with a history of family violence

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 9:362(7), relative to the Post-Separation Family Violence Relief  
3 Act; to provide for the definition of a "treatment program"; and to provide for related  
4 matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 9:362(7) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §362. Definitions

8 As used in this Part:

9 \* \* \*

10 (7) "Treatment program" means a course of evaluation and psychotherapy  
11 designed specifically for perpetrators of family violence, and conducted by licensed  
12 mental health professionals or any other treatment program ordered by the court.

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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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Ritchie

HB No. 421

**Abstract:** Amends the definition of a "treatment program" as used in the Post-Separation Violence Relief Act to include a treatment program that has been ordered by the court.

Present law requires one or more parents to complete a treatment program prior to awarding custody or allowing visitation when there is a history of family violence. Defines "treatment

program" as a course of evaluation and psychotherapy designed specifically for perpetrators of family violence. Further requires the treatment program to be conducted by a licensed mental health professional.

Proposed law retains present law and expands the definition to include any other treatment program ordered by the court.

(Amends R.S. 9:362(7))