

## RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 328 (HB 369)

2015 Regular Session

Barrow

New law prohibits the state domestic violence coalition of La. (coalition) from taking any action against a member of the coalition or domestic violence services provider that would adversely affect the member or provider's ability to furnish shelter or supportive services to the victims of domestic abuse and their families unless the coalition provided proper written notice of the proposed disciplinary action and the right to an appeal hearing no less than 30 days prior to the disciplinary action being imposed. Further requires the coalition to give the member or provider written notice of a scheduled appeal hearing, if requested, and the opportunity to present arguments or evidence in support of the member or provider's position prior to taking disciplinary action.

New law requires the coalition, no later than 48 hours after any disciplinary action is taken against any member of the coalition or domestic violence services provider, to give written notice of the disciplinary action to the Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS), the House and Senate committees on health and welfare, and the representative and senator for any district for which the member or provider renders services.

New law prohibits the written notification provided by the coalition to DCFS, the House and Senate committees on health and welfare, and area legislators from containing privileged communications and records. Further requires the written notification to be made in strict compliance with the existing law provisions of the Protection from Family Violence Act relative to privileged communications (R.S. 46:2124.1).

New law defines "shelter", "state domestic violence coalition", and "supportive services" as those terms are defined in the federal Family Violence Prevention and Services Act.

Effective August 1, 2015.

(Adds R.S. 46:2148)