

## RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

**ACT 166 (HB 490)**

**2018 Regular Session**

**Gregory Miller**

Existing law provides definitions within the context of family and child support programs. New law adds definitions of "health insurance" and "healthcare coverage".

Existing law defines "reasonable cost" for the health insurance premium for a minor child as it relates to the gross income of the parent. New law further provides that the definition of "reasonable cost" applies to adding a child to an existing policy, the cost of acquiring a separate policy, or the difference between a single and a family policy.

Existing law requires a parent responsible for providing medical support to a minor child to provide private health insurance as soon as it is available at a reasonable cost. New law allows a court to order a noncustodial parent to pay cash medical support when a minor child has no healthcare coverage, is covered by public health insurance, or is covered by private health insurance but there remains a need for additional funds to cover the child's healthcare costs.

Prior law provided that cash medical support not exceed 5% of the noncustodial parent's gross income.

New law reduced this percentage from 5% to 3%, and provides that cash medical support is in lieu of requiring the parent to pay reimbursement for extraordinary medical expenses.

Effective upon signature of governor (May 15, 2018).

(Amends R.S. 46:236.1.1(9)-(14) and 236.1.2(L); Adds R.S. 46:236.1.1(15) and (16))