

## RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

**ACT 382 (HB 335)**

**2022 Regular Session**

**Duplessis**

Existing law, relative to behavioral health, defines "gravely disabled" as the condition of a person who is unable to provide for his own basic physical needs as a result of serious mental illness or a substance-related or addictive disorder and is unable to survive safely in freedom or protect himself from serious harm.

New law expands the definition of "gravely disabled", as provided in existing law, to include a person who is unable to protect himself from serious physical harm or significant psychiatric deterioration.

New law defines "psychiatric deterioration" as a decline in mental functioning which diminishes the person's capacity to reason or exercise judgment.

New law removes content requirements for a Physician's Report to Court or an affidavit from a medical health professional when the Physician's Report to Court or affidavit accompanies a petition from existing law.

New law allows the court to appoint a physician, psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner, or psychologist who has been put forth by the petitioner.

New law allows the court to accept a Physician's Report to Court that has been completed pursuant to an examination of the respondent within 10 days of the petition.

Effective August 1, 2022.

(Amends R.S. 28:2(13) and 69(B)(2); Adds R.S. 28:2(40); Repeals R.S. 28:68(C))