
DIGEST

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HB 689 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Amedee

Abstract: Requires La. Dept. of Health and the Dept. of Children and Family Services to transfer public assistance benefits in certain circumstances.

Proposed law requires the Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to notify the La. Dept. of Health (LDH) within three business days after a child is placed in its custody and, for any child under 18 years of age, within three business days after the child is returned to the child's parent.

Proposed law requires LDH, upon receipt of a report from DCFS, to immediately:

- (1) Review whether either of the child's parents is receiving any public assistance benefits as a result of the child being included in the parent's household.
- (2) Adjust any SNAP, WIC, or FITAP benefits for the parent's household to reflect the change in circumstance.
- (3) If the child is enrolled in Medicaid, issue a new Medicaid managed care insurance card for the child at the child's new residence.

Proposed law requires DCFS to report to LDH if a child under the age of 18 is returned to the custody of the child's parent.

Proposed law requires LDH to conduct an assessment to determine where a child is residing and adjust the benefits allotment accordingly if LDH receives an application for benefits for a child who is included in another household that receives benefits.

Proposed law requires LDH to report any individual who failed to report a change in household circumstances and is receiving public assistance benefits for a child who is no longer living in the household to the department's fraud unit.

(Adds R.S. 46:109)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill:

1. Clarify when DCFS must report to LDH a change in a child's household circumstances.
2. Change the amount of time DCFS has to report a change in a child's household circumstances from 72 hours to three business days.
3. Remove provisions of proposed law requiring LDH to report an individual to the fraud detection unit for failure to report a change in household circumstances.
4. Make a technical correction.