

HOUSE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

2026 Regular Session

Amendments proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to Re-Reengrossed Senate Bill No. 237 by Senator Barrow

1 AMENDMENT NO. 1

2 On page 1, line 4, after "609(A)(3)" delete the remainder of the line and delete line 5 in its
3 entirety and insert "610(A)(4)(a) and (D)"

4 AMENDMENT NO. 2

5 On page 1, line 8, delete "603(17)(p)," insert "603(17)(p), (33), and (34),"

6 AMENDMENT NO. 3

7 On page 6, delete lines 18 and 19 and insert the following:

8 **"(7) "Near fatality" means an act that, as certified by a physician, places the**
9 **child in serious or critical condition."**

10 AMENDMENT NO. 4

11 On page 7, line 1, delete "**the chief medical director as the**" and insert "**an**"

12 AMENDMENT NO. 5

13 On page 7, line 4, after "**R.S. 24:525 and**" delete "**for**"

14 AMENDMENT NO. 6

15 On page 13, line 28, after "609(A)(3),"delete the remainder of the line and delete line 29 in
16 its entirety

17 AMENDMENT NO. 7

18 On page 14, line 1, delete "610(A)(3) and (4)(a)," and insert "610(A)(4)(a)"

19 AMENDMENT NO. 8

20 On page 14, line 3, delete "603(17)(p)" insert "603(17)(p), (33), and (34)"

21 AMENDMENT NO. 9

22 On page 14, line 15, after "**sexual**" delete the remainder of the line and insert "**abuse or**
23 **severe physical**"

24 AMENDMENT NO. 10

25 On page 15, after line 29, add the following:

26 **"(33) "Severe neglect" means a report of failure to thrive, severe**
27 **malnourishment, or a consistent, willful, or reckless failure to follow a**
28 **recommended medical plan, leading to substantial harm or imminent risk of**
29 **harm to the child."**

30 **(34) "Severe physical abuse" means severe non-accidental injury,**
31 **including but not limited to brain damage, skull or bone fracture, subdural**

1 hemorrhage or hematoma, dislocations, sprains, internal injury, poisoning,
2 burns, scalds, severe cuts, or any other physical injury that seriously impairs
3 the health or well-being of the child and requires medical treatment.
4

5 AMENDMENT NO. 11

6 On page 16, delete lines 28 and 29 and on page 17, delete lines 1 through 17 and insert the
7 following:

8 "A. A reporter shall immediately report suspected child abuse or neglect or that child
9 abuse or neglect was a contributing factor in a child's death in the following ways:
10 * * *

11 AMENDMENT NO. 12

12 On page 19, delete lines 25 and 26 and insert the following:

13 "and to local or state law enforcement, regardless of the alleged perpetrator."

14 AMENDMENT NO. 13

15 On page 20, delete lines 14 and 15 and insert the following:

16 "(b) "Sexual abuse" means ~~the perpetration or attempted perpetration of R.S. 14:41,~~
17 ~~42, 42.1, 43, 43.1, 43.2, 43.3, 43.4, 80, 81, 81.1, 81.2, 86, 89, or 89.1~~ the involvement of the
18 child in any sexual act as defined in Children's Code Article 603(c)."

19 AMENDMENT NO. 14

20 On page 21, line 29, after "report" delete the remainder of the line

21 AMENDMENT NO. 15

22 On page 22, delete line 1 and insert the following:

23 "practitioner of ~~severe~~ physical abuse, severe neglect, or sexual abuse of a child who is not
24 ~~in custody of the state,~~"

25 AMENDMENT NO. 16

26 On page 22, line 4, after "investigation to" and before "a" insert "the department's child
27 welfare medical team or"

28 AMENDMENT NO. 17

29 On page 22, delete lines 6 and 7 and insert the following:

30 "~~Any resulting report shall be provided to the department and to the child's parent or~~
31 ~~caretaker and~~ The findings and recommendations of the clinical review shall be utilized
32 in the department's ongoing assessment of risk and to"

33 AMENDMENT NO. 18

34 On page 22, between lines 10 and 11, insert the following:

35 "(6) At the request and expense of the child's parent or caregiver, the
36 department shall provide copies of all medical information pertaining to the child's
37 condition or treatment obtained during the investigation to a board-certified child
38 abuse pediatrician for an independent external review. Any resulting external report"

1 **shall be provided to the department and to the child's parent or caregiver and shall be**
2 **utilized in the same manner as any review conducted pursuant to Subparagraph (5) of**
3 **this Paragraph.**"

4 AMENDMENT NO. 19

5 On page 22, delete line 18 and insert the following:

6 "C. All interviews ~~of the child or his parents~~ conducted in the course of a child"