

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 421

BY REPRESENTATIVE RITCHIE

FAMILY LAW: Provides relative to court-approved treatment programs required for a parent with a history of family violence

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 9:362(7), relative to the Post-Separation Family Violence Relief
3 Act; to provide for the definition of a "treatment program"; and to provide for related
4 matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 9:362(7) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §362. Definitions

8 As used in this Part:

9 * * *

10 (7) "Treatment program" means a course of evaluation and psychotherapy
11 designed specifically for perpetrators of family violence, and conducted by licensed
12 mental health professionals or any other similar treatment program administered by
13 an individual qualified by education, training, or experience in domestic violence
14 treatment and approved by the court.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Ritchie

HB No. 421

Abstract: Amends the definition of a "treatment program" as used in the Post-Separation Violence Relief Act to include a treatment program administered by an individual qualified by education, training, or experience in domestic violence treatment and approved by the court.

Present law requires one or more parents to complete a treatment program prior to awarding custody or allowing visitation when there is a history of family violence. Defines "treatment program" as a course of evaluation and psychotherapy designed specifically for perpetrators of family violence. Further requires the treatment program to be conducted by a licensed mental health professional.

Proposed law retains present law and expands the definition to include any other similar treatment program administered by an individual qualified by education, training, or experience in domestic violence treatment and approved by the court.

(Amends R.S. 9:362(7))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Civil Law and Procedure to the original bill.

1. Added requirement that the treatment program be administered by an individual qualified by education, training, or experience in domestic violence treatment.