

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 324 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY STAATS, JOZWIAK, M. MACKENZIE, KAUFFMAN, KINSEY,
ROZZI, STRUZZI, MOUL, HEFFLEY, SCHEUREN, STEHR, KEEFER AND
ECKER, MARCH 13, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH, MARCH 13, 2023

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in child protective services, further
3 providing for definitions.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Section 6303(a) of Title 23 of the Pennsylvania
7 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding definitions to read:
8 § 6303. Definitions.

9 (a) General rule.--The following words and phrases when used
10 in this chapter shall have the meanings given to them in this
11 section unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

12 * * *

13 "General protective services report." A report asserting
14 that a child may be at risk of harm or of harming others due to
15 conditions or circumstances other than abuse.

16 * * *

17 "Valid." In relation to a general protective services
18 report, a determination that there is substantial evidence that

1 a child:

2 (1) is without proper parental care or control,
3 subsistence, education as required by law or other care or
4 control necessary for the child's morals or physical, mental
5 or emotional health;

6 (2) has been placed for care or adoption in violation of
7 law;

8 (3) has been abandoned by or is otherwise without a
9 parent, guardian or legal custodian;

10 (4) is habitually and without justification truant from
11 school;

12 (5) is ungovernable and is at risk of harm or is
13 creating a risk of harm to others due to habitual disregard
14 for the reasonable and lawful commands of the child's parent,
15 guardian or other custodian; or

16 (6) is under 10 years of age and has committed an act
17 designated as a crime under the laws of this Commonwealth.

18 * * *

19 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.