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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 1527 Session of  
2017

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INTRODUCED BY STEPHENS, DRISCOLL, MILLARD, TAYLOR, PICKETT,  
ROZZI, CORR, JOZWIAK, D. COSTA, DAVIS, KORTZ AND MICCARELLI,  
JUNE 12, 2017

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SENATOR BROOKS, AGING AND YOUTH, AS AMENDED, SEPTEMBER 24, 2018

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, in child protective services, further  
3 providing for persons required to report suspected child  
4 abuse.

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

7 Section 1. Section 6311(a)(16) and ~~(b)(1)~~ (B) of Title 23 of <--  
8 the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended to read:

9 § 6311. Persons required to report suspected child abuse.

10 (a) Mandated reporters.--The following adults shall make a  
11 report of suspected child abuse, subject to subsection (b), if  
12 the person has reasonable cause to suspect that a child is a  
13 victim of child abuse:

14 \* \* \*

15 (16) An adult family member who is a person responsible  
16 for the child's welfare and provides services to a child in a  
17 family living home, community home for individuals with an  
18 intellectual disability or host home for children which are

1 subject to supervision or licensure by the department under  
2 Articles IX and X of the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31,  
3 No.21), known as the [Public Welfare] Human Services Code.

4 (b) Basis to report.--

5 (1) A mandated reporter enumerated in subsection (a)  
6 shall make a report of suspected child abuse in accordance  
7 with section 6313 (relating to reporting procedure), if the  
8 mandated reporter has reasonable cause to suspect that a  
9 child is a victim of child abuse under any of the following  
10 circumstances:

11 ~~(i) The mandated reporter witnesses an act of child~~ <--  
12 ~~abuse against an identifiable child.~~

13 †(i)† ~~(ii)~~ The mandated reporter comes into contact <--  
14 with the child in the course of employment, occupation  
15 and practice of a profession or through a regularly  
16 scheduled program, activity or service.

17 †(ii)† ~~(iii)~~ The mandated reporter is directly <--  
18 responsible for the care, supervision, guidance or  
19 training of the child, or is affiliated with an agency,  
20 institution, organization, school, regularly established  
21 church or religious organization or other entity that is  
22 directly responsible for the care, supervision, guidance  
23 or training of the child.

24 †(iii)† ~~(iv)~~ A person makes a specific disclosure to <--  
25 the mandated reporter that an identifiable child is the  
26 victim of child abuse.

27 †(iv)† ~~(v)~~ An individual 14 years of age or older <--  
28 makes a specific disclosure to the mandated reporter that  
29 the individual has committed child abuse.

30 ~~\*\*\*~~ <--

1           (1.1) IF A MANDATED REPORTER ENUMERATED IN SUBSECTION  
2           (A) WITNESSES AN ACT OF CHILD ABUSE AGAINST AN IDENTIFIABLE  
3           CHILD, THE MANDATED REPORTER SHALL MAKE A REPORT OF SUSPECTED  
4           CHILD ABUSE TO A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIAL AND MAKE A REPORT  
5           IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 6313.

6           (2) NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL REQUIRE A CHILD TO  
7           COME BEFORE THE MANDATED REPORTER IN ORDER FOR THE MANDATED  
8           REPORTER TO MAKE A REPORT OF SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE.

9           (3) NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL REQUIRE THE MANDATED  
10          REPORTER TO IDENTIFY THE PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CHILD  
11          ABUSE TO MAKE A REPORT OF SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE.

12          \* \* \*

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