
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 954 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY STEPHENS, MARCH 17, 2021

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH, MARCH 17, 2021

AN ACT

1 Amending Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses) and 23 (Domestic
2 Relations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, dealing
3 with child abuse:
4 in criminal history record information, further providing
5 for information in central repository or automated systems;
6 and,
7 in organization and responsibilities of Child Protective
8 Service, further providing for services for prevention,
9 investigation and treatment of child abuse.

10 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
11 hereby enacts as follows:

12 Section 1. Section 9106 of Title 18 of the Pennsylvania
13 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a subsection to read:
14 § 9106. Information in central repository or automated systems.

15 * * *

16 (f.1) Child abuse investigations.--

17 (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter,
18 a criminal justice agency may disseminate information
19 relating to an allegation or instance of child abuse to a
20 county agency or children's advocacy center, as those terms
21 are defined in 23 Pa.C.S. § 6303 (relating to definitions),

1 for the purpose of investigating the allegation or to a
2 multidisciplinary review team, multidisciplinary
3 investigative team or child fatality or near fatality review
4 team for the purposes specified in 23 Pa.C.S. § 6365
5 (relating to services for prevention, investigation and
6 treatment of child abuse).

7 (2) A person who is in receipt of confidential
8 information under this subsection and disseminates the
9 information to a person not specifically authorized to
10 receive the information commits a violation of this section.

11 * * *

12 Section 2. Section 6365(f) of Title 23 is amended to read:

13 § 6365. Services for prevention, investigation and treatment of
14 child abuse.

15 * * *

16 (f) Construction.--The provisions of this section shall be
17 construed to assist in the improvement of services designed to
18 identify and prevent child abuse[.] and designed to cooperate as
19 fully as possible with law enforcement agencies for the purposes
20 set forth in this section, consistent with 18 Pa.C.S. §
21 9106(f.1) (relating to information in central repository or
22 automated systems). The provisions shall not be construed to
23 impede or interfere with criminal prosecutions of persons who
24 have committed child abuse.

25 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.