
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1311 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY VANCE AND KITCHEN, JUNE 14, 2016

REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, JUNE 14, 2016

AN ACT

1 Amending Titles 23 (Domestic Relations) and 42 (Judiciary and
2 Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
3 Statutes, in adoption, further providing for grounds for
4 involuntary termination; in child protective services,
5 further providing for definitions and for release of
6 information in confidential reports; and, in juvenile
7 matters, further providing for definitions.

8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
9 hereby enacts as follows:

10 Section 1. Section 2511(a) of Title 23 of the Pennsylvania
11 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding paragraphs to read:
12 § 2511. Grounds for involuntary termination.

13 (a) General rule.--The rights of a parent in regard to a
14 child may be terminated after a petition filed on any of the
15 following grounds:

16 * * *

17 (10) The parent has been found by a court of competent
18 jurisdiction to have committed sexual abuse against the child
19 or another child of the parent.

20 (11) The parent is required to register with a sex
21 offender registry.

1 * * *

2 Section 2. Paragraph (1) of the definition of "perpetrator"
3 in section 6303(a) of Title 23 is amended by adding a
4 subparagraph and (b.1) is amended by adding a paragraph to read:
5 § 6303. Definitions.

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

9 * * *

10 "Perpetrator." A person who has committed child abuse as
11 defined in this section. The following shall apply:

12 (1) The term includes only the following:

13 * * *

14 (vii) An individual 18 years of age or older who
15 engages a child in severe forms of trafficking in persons
16 or sex trafficking, as those terms are defined under
17 section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of
18 2000 (114 Stat. 1466, 22 U.S.C. § 7102).

19 * * *

20 (b.1) Child abuse.--The term "child abuse" shall mean
21 intentionally, knowingly or recklessly doing any of the
22 following:

23 * * *

24 (10) Engaging a child in a severe form of trafficking in
25 persons or sex trafficking, as those terms are defined under
26 section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000
27 (114 Stat. 1466, 22 U.S.C. § 7102).

28 * * *

29 Section 3. Section 6340(a)(9) of Title 23 is amended by
30 adding a subparagraph to read:

1 § 6340. Release of information in confidential reports.

2 (a) General rule.--Reports specified in section 6339
3 (relating to confidentiality of reports) shall only be made
4 available to:

5 * * *

6 (9) Law enforcement officials of any jurisdiction, as
7 long as the information is relevant in the course of
8 investigating cases of:

9 * * *

10 (v) Severe forms of trafficking in persons or sex
11 trafficking, as those terms are defined under section 103
12 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (114
13 Stat. 1466, 22 U.S.C. § 7102).

14 * * *

15 Section 4. The definition of "aggravated circumstances" in
16 section 6302 of Title 42 is amended by adding a paragraph to
17 read:

18 § 6302. Definitions.

19 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
20 shall have, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the
21 meanings given to them in this section:

22 * * *

23 "Aggravated circumstances." Any of the following
24 circumstances:

25 * * *

26 (6) The parent of the child is required to register with
27 a sex offender registry.

28 * * *

29 Section 5. This act shall take effect immediately.