



OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Final Analysis

Dan DeSantis

Am. H.B. 137

132nd General Assembly
(As Passed by the General Assembly)

Reps. Kent, Ashford, Miller, Clyde, Manning, Rezabek, Celebrezze, Rogers, Anielski, Antonio, Arndt, Boccieri, Boggs, Boyd, Brenner, Brown, Carfagna, Craig, Cupp, Edwards, Fedor, Galonski, Gavarone, Ginter, Greenspan, Hagan, Hambley, Holmes, Howse, Hughes, Ingram, T. Johnson, Kelly, Kick, Landis, Lanese, Lang, LaTourette, Leland, Lepore-Hagan, O'Brien, Patterson, Patton, Pelanda, Perales, Ramos, Reece, Reineke, Ryan, Schaffer, Scherer, Schuring, Sheehy, K. Smith, R. Smith, Sprague, Stein, Strahorn, M. Sweeney, Sykes, Thompson, West, Young

Sens. Coley, Uecker, LaRose, Beagle, Dolan, Eklund, Hackett, Hoagland, Kunze, Lehner, Manning, McColley, Oelslager, Peterson, Schiavoni, Sykes, Tavares, Terhar, Thomas, Wilson

Effective date: March 20, 2019

ACT SUMMARY

- Adds peace officers to the list of professionals who must report known or suspected child abuse and neglect, subject to an exception added by the act.
- Expands the types of peace officers who may receive reports of known or suspected child abuse and neglect.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

The act adds peace officers to the list of persons who, acting in a professional or official capacity, must report known or suspected child abuse or neglect. Under the law, a mandatory reporter must make the report to the county public children services agency ("PCSA") or a *municipal or county* peace officer in the county where the child resides or where the abuse or neglect is occurring or has occurred. The act expands the types of peace officers to whom a person may make the report. Under the act, the peace officer who receives the report must still be in the county where the child resides or

* This version updates the effective date.

where the abuse or neglect is occurring or has occurred. But, the report may be made to the county PCSA or any of the following types of peace officer: a sheriff, deputy sheriff, constable, police officer of a township or joint police district, marshal, deputy marshal, municipal police officer, or a state highway patrol trooper. The act requires any of these peace officers, when acting in the capacity of a mandatory reporter, to report to the county PCSA. Individuals who are not listed as mandatory reporters may, but are not required to, make a report.

The law requires a municipal or county peace officer who receives a report to refer it to the appropriate PCSA. Under the act, the expanded list of peace officers, as described above, is not required to make that referral if an arrest is made at the time of the report that results in the appropriate PCSA being contacted concerning the child abuse or neglect. The PCSA must investigate each report of child abuse or neglect that it receives within 24 hours.¹

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	03-21-17
Reported, H. Criminal Justice	10-11-17
Passed House (93-0)	11-01-17
Reported, S. Gov't Oversight & Reform	12-06-18
Passed Senate (27-0)	12-06-18
House concurred in Senate amendments (78-2)	12-06-18

¹ R.C. 2151.421.

