



Senate Aging & Youth Committee

Senator Bob Mensch

Chairman

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Analysis Senate Bill 22, P.N. 681

Prime Sponsor: Senator Kim Ward

Overview

Amends Title 23 (Domestic Relations) by creating an offense for failing to report suspected child abuse.

Summary

Amends the Child Protective Services Law to create the following offenses:

- Makes it a second-degree misdemeanor if a mandated reporter fails to report a suspected case of child abuse or make a referral to the appropriate authorities.
- Makes it first-degree misdemeanor if a person intentionally or knowingly prevents or interferes with the making of a report or referral of suspected child abuse.
- Makes it a third-degree felony if a person intentionally or knowingly acts to prevent the discovery of child abuse in order to protect or insulate any person or entity from prosecution or liability.
- Makes it a third-degree felony if a person continues to fail to make a report of suspected child abuse while they know or has reasonable cause to believe the child is actively being abused.
- Makes it a second-degree felony to commit a second or subsequent offense of any of the above.

Effective Date

60 days