

ARIZONA STATE SENATE

RESEARCH STAFF



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DATE: February 19, 2013

SUBJECT: Strike everything amendment to SB 1291, relating to application; duty to report abuse

Purpose

Specifies a report is not required to be submitted by a mandatory reporter under specified conditions.

Background

Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S) requires certain individuals who reasonably believe that a minor is or has been the victim of physical injury, abuse, child abuse, a reportable offense, certain medical situations or neglect that appears to have been inflicted on the minor by other than accidental means to immediately report or cause reports to be made of this information to a peace officer or to Child Protective Services. If the report concerns a person who does not have care, custody or control of the minor, the report must be made to a peace officer only (mandatory reporter). Individuals currently defined as mandatory reporters are: peace officers; clergy members, priests or Christian Science practitioners, with exceptions; the parent, stepparent or guardian of the minor; school personnel; domestic violence victim advocates; certain medical personnel; and any other person responsible for the care or treatment of the minor (A.R.S. § 13-3620).

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this legislation.

Provisions

1. Specifies a report is not required to be submitted by a mandatory reporter if all of the following apply:
 - a) the minor is of elementary school age,
 - b) the physical injury occurs in the course of typical playground activity during a school day on the premises of the school the minor attends, and
 - c) the physical injury is reported to the legal guardian of the minor.
2. As session law, allows a school, on approval by the local school board, to expunge a report contained in a student's school file under specified conditions.
3. Makes technical changes.
4. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

STRIKER MEMO

S.B. 1291

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