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DELAWARE STATE SENATE
152nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE BILL NO. 121

AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 16 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE CHILD PROTECTION ACCOUNTABILITY COMMISSION

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE:

1 Section 1. Amend Chapter 9, Subchapter I of Title 16 of the Delaware Code by making deletions as shown by
2 strike through and 2 insertions as shown by underline as follows:

3 § 911. Training and information.

4 (a) The Department and the Child Protection Accountability Commission shall, on a continuing basis, undertake
5 and maintain programs to inform all persons required to report abuse or neglect ~~pursuant to § 903 of this title and the public~~
6 under § 903 of this title of the nature, problem and extent of abuse and neglect, and of the remedial and therapeutic services
7 available to children and their families and to encourage self-reporting and the voluntary acceptance of such services.

8 (b) The Department and the Child Protection Accountability Commission shall conduct ongoing training programs
9 to advance the purpose of this section.

10 (c) ~~The Department shall continuously publicize the existence of the 24-hour report line to those required to report~~
11 ~~abuse or neglect pursuant to § 903 of this title of their responsibilities and to the public the existence of the 24-hour~~
12 ~~statewide toll-free telephone number to receive reports of abuse or neglect. The Department and the Child Protection~~
13 Accountability Commission shall continuously publicize the responsibility to report under § 903 of this title and the
14 existence of the 24-hour statewide toll-free telephone number to receive reports of abuse or neglect.

15 Section 2. Amend Chapter 9, Subchapter III of Title 16 of the Delaware Code by making deletions as shown by
16 strike through and insertions as shown by underline as follows:

17 § 931. The Child Protection Accountability Commission.

18 (b) The Commission is designated as a “citizen review panel” as required under the federal Child Abuse
19 Prevention and Treatment Act, 42 U.S.C. § 5106a(c) and the “state task force” as required under the federal Children’s
20 Justice Act, 42 U.S.C. § 5106c(c). The Commission may delegate tasks to its committees, workgroups, and panels as
21 necessary to accomplish its duties. The Commission’s purpose is to monitor Delaware’s child protection system to best

22 ensure the health, safety, and well-being of Delaware's abused, neglected, and dependent children. To that end, the
23 Commission shall meet on a quarterly basis and shall:

24 (4) Access, develop, and provide quality training to the Division of Family Services, Deputy Attorneys
25 General, Family Court, law-enforcement officers, the medical community, educators, day-care providers, and
26 others on child protection issues, including the reporting obligations under § 903 of this title.

SYNOPSIS

This Act codifies that the Child Protection Accountability Commission, in conjunction with the Department of Services for Children, Youth, and their Families, is responsible for developing, maintaining, and conducting child abuse mandatory reporting, multidisciplinary response, and related trainings under this Chapter.

Author: Senator Gay