

SENATE BILL NO. 196

BY SENATOR MOUNT AND REPRESENTATIVE KATZ

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 46:1403(A)(2) and 1404(B) and to enact R.S. 46:1403(A)(11)
3 and to repeal Chapter 15 of Title 46 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950,
4 comprised of R.S. 46:1451 through 1459, relative to child-placing agencies; to
5 expand the definition of a child-placing agency; to provide for licensure of
6 transitional youth residences as child-placing agencies; to provide an exemption to
7 licensure of child-placing agencies operated by the Department of Social Services;
8 and to provide for related matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. R.S. 46:1403(A)(2) and 1404(B) are hereby amended and reenacted and
11 R.S. 46:1403(A)(11) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

12 §1403. Definitions

13 A. As used in this Chapter, the following definitions shall apply unless the
14 context clearly states otherwise:

15 * * *

16 (2) "Child-placing agency" means any institution, society, agency,
17 corporation, facility, person or persons, or any other group engaged in placing
18 children in foster ~~homes~~ care or with substitute parents for temporary care or for
19 adoption, or engaged in assisting or facilitating the adoption of children, or engaged
20 in placing youth in transitional placing programs, but shall not mean a person
21 who may occasionally refer children for temporary care.

22 * * *

23 (11) "Youth" means a person not less than sixteen years of age nor older
24 than twenty-one years of age.

25 * * *

26 §1404. Requirement of licensure

27 * * *

1 B. ~~The office of community services within the Department of Social~~
2 ~~Services shall be licensed by the office of family support within the Department of~~
3 ~~Social Services and shall perform its child-placing functions in accordance with the~~
4 ~~established standards or certifications for licensed child-placing agencies.~~ **Child-**
5 **placing agencies within the Department of Social Services shall be exempt from**
6 **the provisions of this Chapter. The department is authorized and mandated to**
7 **perform its child-placing functions in accordance with the standards**
8 **promulgated by the department for licensed child-placing agencies.**

9 Section 2. Chapter 15 of Title 46 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950,
10 comprised of R.S. 46:1451 through 1459, is hereby repealed in its entirety.

11 Section 3. All transitional youth residences which were licensed on the effective date
12 of this Act shall be issued licenses as child-placing agencies on the effective date of this Act.

13 Section 4. This Act shall become effective on October 1, 2010.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____