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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 324 Session of  
2023

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INTRODUCED BY STAATS, JOZWIAK, M. MACKENZIE, KAUFFMAN, KINSEY,  
ROZZI, STRUZZI, MOUL, HEFFLEY, SCHEUREN, STEHR, KEEFER AND  
ECKER, MARCH 13, 2023

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH, MARCH 13, 2023

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, in child protective services, further  
3 providing for definitions.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Section 6303(a) of Title 23 of the Pennsylvania  
7 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding definitions to read:  
8 § 6303. Definitions.

9 (a) General rule.--The following words and phrases when used  
10 in this chapter shall have the meanings given to them in this  
11 section unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

12 \* \* \*

13 "General protective services report." A report asserting  
14 that a child may be at risk of harm or of harming others due to  
15 conditions or circumstances other than abuse.

16 \* \* \*

17 "Valid." In relation to a general protective services  
18 report, a determination that there is substantial evidence that

1 a child:

2 (1) is without proper parental care or control,  
3 subsistence, education as required by law or other care or  
4 control necessary for the child's morals or physical, mental  
5 or emotional health;

6 (2) has been placed for care or adoption in violation of  
7 law;

8 (3) has been abandoned by or is otherwise without a  
9 parent, guardian or legal custodian;

10 (4) is habitually and without justification truant from  
11 school;

12 (5) is ungovernable and is at risk of harm or is  
13 creating a risk of harm to others due to habitual disregard  
14 for the reasonable and lawful commands of the child's parent,  
15 guardian or other custodian; or

16 (6) is under 10 years of age and has committed an act  
17 designated as a crime under the laws of this Commonwealth.

18 \* \* \*

19 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.