



Reprinted
February 17, 2026

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL No. 1036

DIGEST OF HB 1036 (Updated February 16, 2026 4:43 pm - DI 148)

Citations Affected: IC 31-25.

Synopsis: Children in need of services. Requires the department of child services, subject to certain procedural safeguards, to have in-person contact with an alleged victim of child abuse or neglect: (1) before concluding an assessment; and (2) before dismissing or terminating a pending child in need of services case with the juvenile court.

Effective: July 1, 2026.

Garcia Wilburn, Burton, McGuire, Goss-Reaves

(SENATE SPONSORS — ROGERS, POL JR., CLARK, FORD J.D., SCHMITT,
GASKILL, JOHNSON T, GOODE, DONATO, WALKER G, QADDOURA,
HUNLEY)

December 1, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Judiciary.

January 27, 2026, amended, reported — Do Pass.

January 29, 2026, read second time, ordered engrossed.

January 30, 2026, engrossed.

February 2, 2026, read third time, passed. Yeas 95, nays 0.

SENATE ACTION

February 5, 2026, read first time and referred to Committee on Family and Children Services.

February 9, 2026, reported favorably — Do Pass.

February 16, 2026, read second time, amended, ordered engrossed.

EH 1036—LS 6302/DI 148



Reprinted
February 17, 2026

Second Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2026)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL No. 1036

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning family law and juvenile law.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 31-25-2-11.1 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
2 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
3 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 11.1. Subject to IC 31-33-8-7, the**
4 **department shall have direct in-person contact with an alleged**
5 **victim of child abuse or neglect not more than thirty (30) days**
6 **before the department:**
7 **(1) concludes an assessment under IC 31-33; or**
8 **(2) dismisses or terminates a child in need of services case**
9 **pending before a juvenile court.**

EH 1036—LS 6302/DI 148



COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Speaker: Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred House Bill 1036, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that said bill be amended as follows:

Page 1, line 3, delete "(a) Before the department" and insert "**The department shall have direct in-person contact with an alleged victim of child abuse or neglect not more than thirty (30) days before the department:**

(1) concludes an assessment under IC 31-33; or

(2) dismisses or terminates a child in need of services case pending before a juvenile court."

Page 1, delete lines 4 through 12.

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to HB 1036 as introduced.)

JETER

Committee Vote: yeas 13, nays 0.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. President: The Senate Committee on Family and Children Services, to which was referred House Bill No. 1036, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill DO PASS.

(Reference is to HB 1036 as printed January 27, 2026.)

WALKER G, Chairperson

Committee Vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0



SENATE MOTION

Mr. President: I move that Engrossed House Bill 1036 be amended to read as follows:

Page 1, line 3, delete "The" and insert "**Subject to IC 31-33-8-7, the**".

(Reference is to EHB 1036 as printed February 10, 2026.)

FREEMAN

