



www.lsc.ohio.gov

OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
and Drafting

Legislative Budget
Office

H.B. 532
136th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Rep. K. Miller

Chenwei Zhang, Attorney

SUMMARY

- Requires a court officer or law enforcement officer who takes custody of a child in specified circumstances to immediately notify the public children services agency (PCSA) of the county in which the child is taken into custody if the child cannot be released to a parent, guardian, or custodian.
- Requires a PCSA that receives such notice to take immediate custody of the child and, if the child resides in a different county, to notify the PCSA of that county and requires that PCSA to take prompt custody of the child and act as the lead agency.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Require PCSAs to take immediate custody

The bill specifies that, if a child is taken into custody for reasons related to the child's welfare and the child cannot be released to a parent, guardian, or custodian, the court officer or law enforcement officer must immediately notify the public children services agency (PCSA) of the county in which the child is taken into custody.¹ Upon receiving notice, the PCSA must take immediate custody of the child. If the child is taken into custody in a county other than the county in which the child resides, the PCSA must act as the child's temporary custodial agency and immediately notify the PCSA of the county in which the child resides. That PCSA must then promptly take custody of the child and act as the lead agency.²

¹ R.C. 2151.31(D)(1).

² R.C. 2151.31(D)(2).

Exceptions

The bill does not require a court officer or law enforcement officer to immediately notify a PCSA as specified above when law enforcement would be involved in taking custody of the child for reasons unrelated to the child's welfare. This includes the following circumstances when a child may be taken into custody under existing law:

- If a juvenile offender has been released from custody or detention, pursuant to a court order when a victim alleges that the juvenile offender has committed or threatened to commit violence, harassment, or intimidation against the victim or the victim's family or representative;
- Pursuant to the laws of arrest;
- Circumstances related to the unlawful employment of minors;
- When a complaint has been filed with respect to a child who is believed to be a juvenile traffic offender or a delinquent child or the child has been indicted or charged by information as a serious youthful offender and there are reasonable grounds to believe that the child may abscond or be removed from the jurisdiction of the court;
- When there are reasonable grounds to believe that the child committed a delinquent act and that taking the child into custody is necessary to protect the public interest and safety.³

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	10-21-25

ANHB0532IN-136/ts

³ R.C. 2151.31(D)(1)(a) to (e).