THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 418

Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY STEHR, GUENST, SCHEUREN, COOK AND KERWIN, MARCH 15, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH, MARCH 15, 2023

AN ACT

- Amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in child protective services, further providing for organization for child protective services. 3 4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows: Section 1. Section 6361(b) of Title 23 of the Pennsylvania 6 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read: 7 § 6361. Organization for child protective services. 8 * * * 9 (b) Staff and organization. --10 11 (1) The county agency shall have a sufficient staff of 12 sufficient qualifications to fulfill the purposes of this 1.3 chapter and be organized in a way to maximize the continuity 14 of responsibility, care and services of individual workers 15 toward individual children and families.
- 16 <u>(2)</u> The department, by regulation, shall set forth
 17 staff-to-family ratios for the various activities required of
 18 the county agency under this chapter, including reports and

- 1 investigations of suspected child abuse, risk assessment and
- 2 the provision or monitoring of services to abused children
- 3 and their families.
- 4 (3) The county agency shall employ at least one
- 5 <u>individual who is licensed to provide health care services</u>
- 6 <u>under the laws of this Commonwealth in the practice of</u>
- 7 practical nursing, as defined in section 2(1) of the act of
- 8 <u>March 2, 1956 (1955 P.L.1211, No.376), known as the Practical</u>
- 9 Nurse Law.
- 10 (4) The county agency and each individual described in
- 11 paragraph (3) shall have access to at least one physician or
- other certified medical practitioner for the purpose of
- consultation on specific cases under this chapter.
- 14 * * *
- 15 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.