

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1143 Session of
2026INTRODUCED BY FONTANA, STEFANO, COSTA, VOGEL, J. WARD AND
ROBINSON, JANUARY 20, 2026

REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, JANUARY 20, 2026

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in child protective services, further
3 providing for employees having contact with children and
4 adoptive and foster parents.

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

7 Section 1. Section 6344(c)(4) of Title 23 of the
8 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

9 § 6344. Employees having contact with children; adoptive and
10 foster parents.

11 * * *

12 (c) Grounds for denying employment or participation in
13 program, activity or service.--

14 * * *

15 (4) In addition to paragraphs (1), (2) and (3), in no
16 case shall an employer, administrator, supervisor or other
17 person responsible for employment decisions or involved in
18 the selection of volunteers [at a child day-care center,
19 group day-care home or family child-care home] hire or

1 approve an applicant under any of the following
2 circumstances:

3 (i) The applicant's criminal history record
4 information indicates the applicant has been convicted of
5 any of the following:

6 (A) One or more of the following offenses under
7 Title 18 or an equivalent crime under Federal law or
8 the law of another state:

9 A felony offense under section 2718 (relating to
10 strangulation).

11 A felony offense under section 3301 (relating to
12 arson and related offenses).

13 (B) An offense under 18 U.S.C. § 2261 (relating
14 to interstate domestic violence) or 2262 (relating to
15 interstate violation of protection order).

16 (ii) The applicant's name appears on the National
17 Crime Information Center National Sex Offender Registry
18 or on a state's sex offender registry.

19 (iii) The applicant's name appears on a Statewide
20 database or its equivalent as a perpetrator of child
21 abuse.

22 * * *

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