

SENATE BILL NO. 523

September 04, 2025, Introduced by Senators CHANG, DAMOOSE, BAYER, WEBBER and CAVANAGH and referred to Committee on Civil Rights, Judiciary, and Public Safety.

A bill to amend 1975 PA 238, entitled
"Child protection law,"
by amending section 18 (MCL 722.638), as amended by 2022 PA 66.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 18. (1) The department shall submit a petition for
2 authorization by the court under section 2(b) of chapter XIIIA of
3 **the probate code of 1939**, 1939 PA 288, MCL 712A.2, if 1 or more of
4 the following apply:

5 (a) The department determines that a parent, guardian, or

1 custodian, or a person who is 18 years of age or older and who
2 resides for any length of time in the child's home, has abused the
3 child or a sibling of the child and the abuse included 1 or more of
4 the following:

5 (i) Abandonment of a young child.

6 (ii) Criminal sexual conduct involving penetration, attempted
7 penetration, or assault with intent to penetrate.

8 (iii) Battering, torture, or other serious physical harm.

9 (iv) Loss or serious impairment of an organ or limb.

10 (v) Life threatening injury.

11 (vi) Murder or attempted murder.

12 (vii) **Human trafficking as that term is defined in section 2 of**
13 **the human trafficking commission act, 2014 PA 325, MCL 752.972.**

14 (b) The department determines that there is risk of harm,
15 child abuse, or child neglect to the child and either of the
16 following is true:

17 (i) The parent's rights to another child were terminated as a
18 result of proceedings under section 2(b) of chapter XIIIA of **the**
19 **probate code of 1939**, 1939 PA 288, MCL 712A.2, or a similar law of
20 another state and the parent has failed to rectify the conditions
21 that led to the prior termination of parental rights.

22 (ii) The parent's rights to another child were voluntarily
23 terminated following the initiation of proceedings under section
24 2(b) of chapter XIIIA of **the probate code of 1939**, 1939 PA 288, MCL
25 712A.2, or a similar law of another state, the parent has failed to
26 rectify the conditions that led to the prior termination of
27 parental rights, and the proceeding involved abuse that included 1
28 or more of the following:

29 (A) Abandonment of a young child.

1 (B) Criminal sexual conduct involving penetration, attempted
2 penetration, or assault with intent to penetrate.

3 (C) Battering, torture, or other serious physical harm.

4 (D) Loss or serious impairment of an organ or limb.

5 (E) Life-threatening injury.

6 (F) Murder or attempted murder.

7 (G) Voluntary manslaughter.

8 (H) Aiding and abetting, attempting to commit, conspiring to
9 commit, or soliciting murder or voluntary manslaughter.

10 (I) **Human trafficking as that term is defined in section 2 of**
11 **the human trafficking commission act, 2014 PA 325, MCL 752.972.**

12 (2) In a petition submitted as required by subsection (1), if
13 a parent is a suspected perpetrator or is suspected of placing the
14 child at an unreasonable risk of harm due to the parent's failure
15 to take reasonable steps to intervene to eliminate that risk, the
16 department shall include a request for termination of parental
17 rights at the initial dispositional hearing as authorized under
18 section 19b of chapter XIIIA of **the probate code of 1939**, 1939 PA
19 288, MCL 712A.19b.

20 (3) If the department is considering petitioning for
21 termination of parental rights at the initial dispositional hearing
22 as authorized under section 19b of chapter XIIIA of **the probate code**
23 **of 1939**, 1939 PA 288, MCL 712A.19b, even though the facts of the
24 child's case do not require departmental action under subsection
25 (1), the department shall hold a conference among the appropriate
26 agency personnel to agree upon the course of action. The department
27 shall notify the attorney representing the child of the time and
28 place of the conference, and the attorney may attend. If an
29 agreement is not reached at this conference, the department

1 director or the director's designee shall resolve the disagreement
2 after consulting the attorneys representing both the department and
3 the child.