



LEGISLATION ENACTED TO PROTECT CHILDREN'S INDEPENDENT ACTIVITIES

Below is a list of the state statutes that have passed starting in 2018 that authorize independence activities and provide protection against neglect or criminal charges (in order of their passage dates as reflected by the date of the Governor's signing). The underlying legislation is also cited as well as where the legislation is codified in their codes. Lead sponsors are also listed with their party affiliation).

Utah: SB 65 (2018 Session)(lead bill sponsor Sen. Lincoln Filmore, R., house sponsor Rep. Brad Daw, R.), <https://le.utah.gov/~2018/bills/static/SB0065.html>. Governor signed on March 15, 2018, amending

[62A-4a-403](#), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapter 299

[62A-4a-409](#), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2017, Chapter 459

[78A-6-105](#), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2017, Chapters 181, 330, and 401

[78A-6-302](#), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2017, Chapter 330

[78A-6-306](#), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2017, Chapter 330

[78A-6-312](#), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2017, Chapters 323 and 330.

Oklahoma: HB 2565 (2021 Session) (lead sponsor Reps. Chad Caldwell (R.) and Jacob Rosecrants (D.) <http://www.oklegislature.gov/BillInfo.aspx?Bill=hb2565&Session=2100> Governor signed May 3, 2021. Legislation amends Oklahoma Children's Code: amending 10A O.S. 2011, Section 1-1-105, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 161, O.S.L. 2020 (10A O.S. Supp. 2020, Section 1-1-105).

Texas: HB 567 (2021 Session)(Rep. Frank, R.; multiple cosponsors), <https://capitol.texas.gov/BillLookup/history.aspx?LegSess=87R&Bill=HB567>. Filed without Governor's signature. Amending Section [161.001\(c\)](#), Texas Family Code. (Note: this was an omnibus bill so the provisions on independence are less detailed than other states' bills),

Colorado: HB 22-1090 (2022 Session)(passed House in 2020 under HB 20-1147 prior to pandemic shut down; identical language)(Sen. Janet Buckner, D., , Jim Smallwood , Rep. Kim Ransom, R, Rep. Mary Young, D.). Governor signed on March 30, 2022. Amending Colorado Revised Statutes, 19-1-103.

Virginia: SB 1367 (2023 Session)(Sens. Jill Vogel, R., lead patron, Sens. Jennfier Boysko and Jennifer McClellan, co-patrons (D). <https://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?ses=231&typ=bil&val=sb1367>. Governor signed on March 26, 2023. Legislation amends Juvenile and Domestic Relations Code (16.1-228), and Social Services Code (63.2-100. Definitions).

Montana: SB 339 (2023 Session)(Sen. Kenneth Bogner, R.)
<https://apps.montanafreepress.org/capitol-tracker-2023/bills/sb-339/>. Governor signed on May 3, 2023. Legislation amends Title 45, chapter 5, part 6, and the provisions of Title 45, chapter 5, part 6, applies to [section 1].

Connecticut: Raised Judiciary Bill 1133, Public Act 23-176 (no single sponsor; committee bill),
https://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/CGABillStatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=SB1133
Governor signed on June 27, 2023). Legislation amends Subsection (a) of section 53-21a of Connecticut Code (Crimes/Offenses against the Person). (Note: Connecticut is the sole state to date to have made changes to its criminal code but not its juvenile/dependency/neglect/children's code).

Illinois: SB 1834, Public Act 103-0233 (Sen. Elgie Sims, D., Sen. Sara Feigenholz, D.; Justin Slaughter and five other Democratic co-sponsors in the House).
<https://legiscan.com/IL/bill/SB1834/2023>, Governor signed June 30, 2023. Legislation amends Illinois Juvenile Court Act, 705 ILCS 405/2-3 (changing definition of neglect) and Illinois Criminal Code 720 ILCS 5/12C-10 (changing definition of criminal abandonment).