

## 2023-24 Legislative Session Update

### Bills of Interest Enacted into Law

- [Act 61 \(AB-166/SB-149\)](#) Adds to the definition of sexual contact for the purposes of crimes against children and the crime of sexual assault, to include when a child touches ejaculate, urine or feces of a person at the direction or instruction of the defendant, either by use or threat of force or violence or upon an intentional act of the defendant
- [Act 79 \(AB-369/SB-369\)](#) Authorizing the installation of newborn infant safety devices in hospitals, fire stations, and law enforcement agency buildings and allowing a parent to relinquish a child under the age of 72 hours in such a device under the Safe Haven law
- [Act 118 \(AB-383/SB-381\)](#) Allows adoptive parents to complete the in-person training requirements through a live videoconference
- [Act 119 \(AB-557/SB-520\)](#) Inclusion of like-kin as an option for with whom children can be placed out of their home under certain circumstances and who may receive kinship care payments
- [Act 238 \(AB-976/SB-946\)](#) Allows a child witness under the age of 18 to testify (in a criminal trial for human trafficking) in a room other than the courtroom outside of the presence of the defendant
- [Act 239 \(AB-978/SB-954\)](#) Creates a Human Trafficking Council within the WI Department of Justice tasked with 1) compiling and maintaining an inventory of prevention programs and services, 2) reviewing state funding every 3 years, 3) compiling data on trafficking offenses, 4) developing training and protocols
- [Act 241 \(AB-940/SB-877\)](#) Provides 10 million dollars to the Department of Justice to allocate as grants to sexual assault victim service organizations, domestic abuse victim service organizations and to statutorily designated child advocacy centers

### Bills of Interest Vetoed by the Governor

- [AB-896/SB-836](#) – Would have granted the juvenile court the ability to impose reasonable restrictions on a juvenile's conduct (travel, no-contact provisions, use of AOD, school attendance, etc.) during the time between a plea hearing and the conclusion of any fact-finding or disposition hearing.
- [AB-510/SB-489](#) – Would have established a legal standard for state infringement on fundamental rights of parents and guardians, explicitly establishes a number of parental and guardian rights relating to a child's religion, medical care and records, and education, and creates a cause of action for the violation of these rights.

### Bills of Interest that Failed to Pass both the Assembly and Senate

- [AB-1163/SB-1067](#) – Raising the age from 17 to 18 as the age at which a person who is alleged to have violated a criminal law is subject to the procedures specified in the Criminal Procedure Code. Also raising the age from 17 to 18 for instances when a person is alleged to have violated a civil law or municipal ordinance as being subjected to circuit or municipal court

- [AB-1084/SB-987](#) – Giving judge authority to determine whether to hold or release a juvenile from custody
- [AB-1052/SB-949](#)– Courtroom supports for and sealing identifying information of child victims and child witnesses of human trafficking crimes
- [AB-1012/SB-950](#)– Creating a WisKids savings account program within the college savings program and making an appropriation
- [AB-1003/SB-913](#)– Providing an exemption from emergency rule procedures for psychiatric and residential treatment facilities
- [AB-1002/SB-914](#) – Video monitoring or recording in psychiatric treatment facilities, RCCs for children and youth, group homes and shelter care
- [AB-845/SB-801](#)– Sentencing for crimes committed by a person who is <18
- [AB-864/SB-803](#)– Funding for Family Foundations home visitation program
- [AB-794/SB-749](#)– Harboring Child Runaways
- [AB-560/SB-524](#)– Allowing videoconferencing in certain civil actions (including in Chapter 48 and 938 proceedings)
- [AB 336/SB 346](#) – A grant program for financial assistance for adoption and making an appropriation
- [AB 107/SB 80](#) – A parent may disclaim parental rights by affidavit in connection with an adoption
- [AB 83/SB 81](#) – Giving counties discretion to provide a copy of the permanency plan in a CHIPS proceeding to an out-of-home care provider
- [AB 48/SB 55](#)– Safe Harbor – Under this bill, a person who is under the age of 18 may not be prosecuted or adjudicated delinquent for committing an act of prostitution
- [AB 24/SB 23](#) – Requires schools to post a sign that contains the telephone number for the local county or state agency that is responsible for receiving reports of child abuse or neglect
- [AB 13/SB 15](#)– Expands access to original impounded birth records, allowing an adoptee and any other person whose original birth record has been impounded to obtain access and an uncertified copy of his or her original record upon request once the person is 18
- [SB-1033](#)– Suspending remote access to motor vehicles upon request from survivors of domestic abuse, human trafficking and related acts
- [AB-1142](#) – University of Wisconsin System and technical college tuition remissions for and grants to support foster care and other out-of-home placement students and making an appropriation