

CHAPTER 64

AN ACT requiring the Departments of Children and Families and Human Services to jointly study predatory alienation and its effects on young adults and senior citizens.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

1. a. The Departments of Children and Families and Human Services shall conduct a joint study and make recommendations concerning predatory alienation and its effects on young adults and senior citizens. The study shall examine:

(1) how online predators, human traffickers, con artists, gangs, cults, and other groups use predatory alienation to isolate young adults and senior citizens from their family and friends;

(2) the grooming practices used to target and control young adults;

(3) the high pressure tactics used in scams and exploitative relationships to manipulate, control, and take advantage of senior citizens;

(4) why young adults and senior citizens are vulnerable to predatory alienation;

(5) what young adults and senior citizens can do to protect themselves from predatory alienation; and

(6) any other information relative to the subject matter of the study.

b. As used in the section, “predatory alienation” means a person’s extreme undue influence on, or coercive persuasion or psychologically damaging manipulation of, another person that results in physical or emotional harm or the loss of financial assets, disrupts a parent-child relationship, leads to a deceptive or exploitative relationship, or isolates the person from family and friends.

2. A report on the joint study’s findings and recommendations shall be submitted to the Governor and, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature no later than six months after the effective date of this act.

3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire on the 30th day after the Departments of Children and Families and Human Services jointly submit the report as prescribed in section 2 of this act.

Approved May 8, 2017.