

CHAPTER 188**(HB 253)**

AN ACT relating to child protective services.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 620 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

- (1) *If the cabinet's initial determination as to the risk of harm to and immediate safety of an abused or neglected child as defined in KRS 600.020 requires an investigation pursuant to administrative regulations promulgated by the cabinet, including consideration of information on the nature and extent of a present danger or threat of danger to the child or cabinet staff, and if the investigation requires a visit to the residence or location where the reported abuse or neglect occurred, the cabinet shall make the visit unannounced, in addition to any other actions taken to protect the child.*
- (2) *If the initial visit is necessary, after it is completed, the cabinet shall incorporate unannounced visits with any necessary scheduled visits until the welfare of the child has been safeguarded in accordance with administrative regulations promulgated by the cabinet.*
- (3) *If there is reason to believe a child is in imminent danger, or if a parent or caretaker of a child refuses the cabinet entry to a child's home or refuses to allow a child to be interviewed, the cabinet may request assistance:*
 - (a) *From law enforcement; or*
 - (b) *Through a request for a court order pursuant to KRS 620.040(5)(a).*
- (4) *A school or a child-care provider shall provide the cabinet access to a child subject to an investigation without parental consent.*

➔Section 2. Section 1 of this Act may be cited as the Tucker Act.

Signed by Governor April 11, 2017.