

## 2022 Legislative Update HB22-1240 Mandatory Reporters

## Implementation of HB22-1240

On June 2, 2022, Governor Jared Polis signed <u>HB22-1240 Mandatory Reporters</u>. The law, which takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly, creates the mandatory reporter task force (task force). The purpose of the task force is to analyze best practices and recommend changes to training materials and reporting procedures for people required by law to report child abuse or neglect. The task force shall analyze issues, including: The effectiveness of mandatory reporting and its relationship with systemic issues, including the disproportionate impact of mandatory reporting on under-resourced communities, communities of color, and persons with disabilities; the definition of "immediately" and how reporting time frames affect mandatory reporters from different professions; reporting time frames for mandatory reporters who are creating a safety plan for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking to ensure the safety of the victim and the victim's family members while creating the safety plan; medical child abuse and the process to report medical child abuse; a reporting process for 2 or more mandatory reporters to report child abuse or neglect who have joint knowledge or joint reasonable cause to make a report of child abuse or neglect; and whether institutions that employ mandatory reporters may develop procedures to assist mandatory reporters in meeting reporting requirements.

The task force may propose clarifications to the law to help implement its recommendations. The task force operates for 2 years. The task force shall an initial findings report on or before January 1, 2024 and a subsequent final report on its findings and recommendations on or before January 1, 2025, to the House of Representatives Public and Behavioral Health and Human Services Committee and the Senate Health and Human Services Committee, or their successor committees, the Governor, and the State Department.