

LOUISIANA NEEDS AN OFFICE OF CHILDREN'S OMBUDS

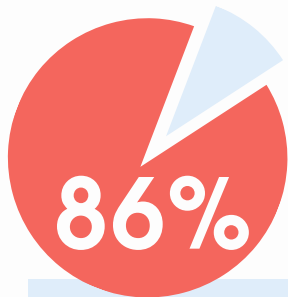
WHAT IS A CHILDREN'S OMBUDS?

Children's Ombuds are independent, impartial state officials who receive, resolve, and report on complaints about state services for children.

WHAT DOES AN OFFICE OF CHILDREN'S OMBUDS DO?

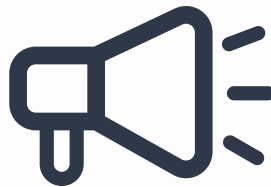
- ➔ Protect the rights of children and families
- ➔ Investigate complaints from citizens & families about government services for children & families
- ➔ Create reports & recommend improvements to benefit children & families
- ➔ Monitor programs & departments responsible for providing children's services

WHY DOES LOUISIANA NEED AN OFFICE OF CHILDREN'S OMBUDS?



86% of states have Ombuds services for children

Recent headlines about the failures of Louisiana's agencies to **protect children** show the serious need for a Children's Ombuds.



Louisiana is failing its most vulnerable children, with deadly consequences- The Times Picayune/The Advocate

'Dying Inside': Chaos and Cruelty in Louisiana Juvenile Detention - The New York Times

Louisiana remains one of the worst states for child well-being - Associated Press/WWLTV.com

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The 4 states ranked the worst in child well-being all lack this in common:
They do not have Offices of Children's Ombuds.

Louisiana is preparing to privatize essential child welfare services. This unprecedented transfer of **responsibility and accountability** requires the objective oversight of an Office of Children's Ombuds.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP:

Contact your state representative about the need for an Office of Child's Ombuds. Find your rep at:
<https://legis.la.gov/legis/FindMyLegislators.aspx>

For more information visit:
www.LouisianaChildAdvocacy.com
A service of Louisiana United Methodist Children and Family Services

