

SENATE BILL No. 287

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 31-9-2-76.5; IC 31-34-21.

Synopsis: Foster parents' participation in certain juvenile proceedings. Entitles a long term foster parent to intervene as a party in a proceeding for the periodic review of a dispositional decree involving a child in need of services.

Effective: July 1, 2002.

Miller

January 7, 2002, read first time and referred to Committee on Judiciary.

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Second Regular Session 112th General Assembly (2002)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2001 General Assembly.

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SENATE BILL No. 287



A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning family law and juvenile law.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 31-9-2-76.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
2 AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
3 1, 2002]: **Sec. 76.5. "Long term foster parent", for purposes of**
4 **IC 31-34-21-4.6, has the meaning set forth in IC 31-34-21-4.6(a).**

5 SECTION 2. IC 31-34-21-4.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.133-2000,
6 SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
7 JULY 1, 2002]: Sec. 4.5. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) **and**
8 **section 4.6 of this chapter**, a foster parent may petition the court to
9 request intervention as a party to a proceeding described in this
10 chapter.

11 (b) A foster parent who has been:
12 (1) the subject of a substantiated report of child abuse or neglect;
13 or
14 (2) convicted of a felony listed in IC 12-17.4-4-11;
15 may not petition the court to intervene under this section.

16 (c) A court may grant a petition filed under this section if the court
17 determines that intervention of the petitioner is in the best interests of



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the child.

SECTION 3. IC 31-34-21-4.6 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2002]: **Sec. 4.6. (a) As used in this section, "long term foster parent" means a foster parent who has provided care and supervision for a child for at least twelve (12) consecutive months.**

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c), a long term foster parent, upon written notice to the court, is entitled to intervene as a party to a proceeding described in this chapter.

(c) A long term foster parent is not entitled to intervene as a party in a proceeding under this chapter if the long term foster parent has been:

- (1) the subject of a substantiated report of child abuse or neglect; or**
- (2) convicted of a felony listed in IC 12-17.4-4-11.**

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