



*Synopsis of House Committee Amendments**

Robin M. Nichols

Legislative Service Commission

Sub. S.B. 185

125th General Assembly
(H. Juvenile and Family Law)

Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act

Terminology

Replace the phrases "parenting determination" and "parenting proceeding" with "child custody determination" and "child custody proceeding," respectively, throughout the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act.

Communications between judges

Make permissive the requirement that a court give the parties an opportunity to participate in communications between an Ohio court and a court in another state that concern a proceeding arising under the UCCJEA.

Remove a provision requiring that parties be promptly informed of communications concerning court records and be granted access to those records.

Provide that a record does not need to be made of communications between courts concerning scheduling, calendars, court records, and similar matters.

Stay of proceedings for deficient pleadings

Remove a provision permitting a court, on motion of a party or on its own motion, to stay a proceeding if the information required to be in each party's initial pleading is not provided.

Registry

Remove a provision requiring the clerk of each juvenile court to maintain a registry of parenting determinations.

* This synopsis does not address amendments that may have been adopted on the House floor.

Investigations of reports of abuse or neglect

Add a provision requiring that when a representative of a public children services agency makes initial contact with the person who is being investigated as a result of a report of abuse or neglect, the person must be informed of the specific allegations against the person.

Grandparent caregivers

Clarify that a juvenile court has jurisdiction over certain filings, to conduct hearings, and to make determinations related to powers of attorney and caretaker authorization affidavits that provide a grandparent with whom a child resides authority over the care, physical custody, and control of the child.

Training of caseworkers

Require that training provided to caseworkers hired by a public children services agency include courses in the caseworkers' duties to protect the constitutional and statutory rights of children and families, including the limitations placed on caseworkers and their investigation by the federal constitutional protection against unreasonable searches and seizures.