ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



Fifty-fifth Legislature Second Regular Session

House: JUD DP 9-0-0-1

HB2675: right to jury; parent-child relationship Sponsor: Representative Biasiucci, LD 5
Caucus & COW

<u>Overview</u>

Applies the right to trial by jury to a termination of a parent-child relationship hearing.

History

Statute entitles a party to a trial by jury in proceedings in which factual disputes arise. The court may call a jury to decide an advisory verdict if there isn't a right to trial by jury or the right is waived (A.R.S. § 14-1306).

The court is required to grant a plaintiff's or defendant's request for a jury trial. If a proceeding is in the superior court, the jury consists of eight individuals. If the proceeding is in the justice court, the jury consists of six individuals (A.R.S. § 12-1176).

The jury hears the proceeding in public and in the presence of the defendant. The court decides questions of law that arise during the trial (A.R.S. § 22-323). A jury trial is prohibited in the small claims division (A.R.S. § 22-518).

A preliminary protective hearing reviews the taking of a child into temporary custody (<u>A.R.S. § 8-824</u>).

Provisions

- 1. Entitles a party a right to trial by jury. (Sec. 1)
- 2. Prohibits the right to trial by jury from being arbitrarily denied. (Sec. 1)
- 3. Requires the court to provide written notice to all parties of the right to a trial by jury. (Sec. 1)
- 4. States that if a court fails to provide the notice, subsequent proceedings do not have the force of the law. (Sec. 1)
- 5. Requires the court to set a new hearing within 20 days if:
 - a) A party believes that their rights have been substantially violated by the court orders; and
 - b) A party files a jury demand with the court within 20 days after the filed court orders. (Sec. 1)
- 6. Allows a party to have the jury reexamine discrete portions of the court's orders without the entire case being reexamined. (Sec. 1)
- 7. Applies the right to a trial by jury to matters relating to preliminary protective hearing or the termination of a parent-child relationship hearing. (Sec. 1)

☐ Prop 105 (45 votes)	☐ Prop 108 (40 votes)	☐ Emergency (40 votes)	☐ Fiscal Note