

ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Fifty-sixth Legislature Second Regular Session Senate: TTMC DP 6-1-0-0 | 3rd Read DPA 19-9-2-0-0

<u>SB 1372</u>: family reunification treatment; prohibitions Sponsor: Senator Bolick, LD 2 Committee on Judiciary

Overview

Proscribes a court from ordering family reunification treatment that requires certain conditions for participation unless both parents consent.

History

<u>A.R.S. title 25</u>, chapter 4 contains several sections of statute concerning legal decisionmaking and parenting time, including provisions on parents' rights, how child support is awarded and the conditions that may disqualify a parent from having custody of their child.

Current law gives a court the ability to determine legal decision-making and parenting time by considering the best interests of the child. In doing so, the court must consider all factors that are relevant to the child's physical and emotional well-being, including several non-exclusive factors that are listed in statute (A.R.S. § 25-403).

Provisions

- 1. Prohibits the court from ordering family reunification treatment that requires the following unless both parents consent:
 - a) a no contact order with the aligned parent;
 - b) an overnight, out-of-state or multiday stay;
 - c) a transfer of physical or legal custody of the child;
 - d) the use of private youth transporters or private transportation agents engaged in the use of force, threat or force, physical obstruction or circumstances that place the safety of the child at risk;
 - e) the use of threats of physical force, undue coercion, verbal abuse or isolation from the child's family, community or other sources of support. (Sec. 1)
- 2. Defines *family reunification treatment* as a treatment, therapy, program, service or camp that is aimed at reuniting or reestablishing a relationship between a child and an estranged or rejected parent. (Sec. 1)