

Second Regular Session of the 123rd General Assembly (2024)

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 2023 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE ENROLLED ACT No. 1051

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:

SECTION 1. IC 31-10-2-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.146-2021, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024]: Sec. 1. It is the policy of this state and the purpose of this title to:

- (1) recognize the importance of family and children in our society, including the parenting rights of a parent, regardless of whether the parent has a disability;
- (2) recognize the responsibility of the state to enhance the viability of children and family in our society;
- (3) acknowledge the responsibility each person owes to the other;
- (4) strengthen family life by assisting parents to fulfill their parental obligations;
- (5) ensure that children within the juvenile justice system are treated as persons in need of care, protection, treatment, and rehabilitation;
- (6) remove children from families only when it is in the child's best interest or in the best interest of public safety;
- (7) make reasonable efforts to support and facilitate two-way communication between a child's parent or parents and any licensed foster parent or kinship caregiver caring for the child following removal by the department of child services;**

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- (7) **(8)** provide for adoption as a viable permanency plan for children who are adjudicated children in need of services;
- ~~(8)~~ **(9)** provide a juvenile justice system that protects the public by enforcing the legal obligations that children have to society and society has to children;
- ~~(9)~~ **(10)** use diversionary programs when appropriate;
- ~~(10)~~ **(11)** provide a judicial procedure that:
 - (A) ensures fair hearings;
 - (B) recognizes and enforces the legal rights of children and their parents; and
 - (C) recognizes and enforces the accountability of children and parents;
- ~~(11)~~ **(12)** promote public safety and individual accountability by the imposition of appropriate sanctions; and
- ~~(12)~~ **(13)** provide a continuum of services developed in a cooperative effort by local governments and the state.



Speaker of the House of Representatives

President of the Senate

President Pro Tempore

Governor of the State of Indiana

Date: _____ Time: _____

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