

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

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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.



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Speaker of the House of Representatives

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President of the Senate

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President Pro Tempore

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Governor of the State of Indiana

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

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