

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.

SENATE ENROLLED ACT No. 16

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 31-19-2-16 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS** [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024]: **Sec. 16. (a) The circuit or superior court exercising jurisdiction over an adoption proceeding in any of the following counties shall establish a guardian ad litem pilot program to appoint a guardian ad litem to represent the interests of an incapacitated parent:**

- (1) LaPorte County.**
- (2) Marshall County.**
- (3) Starke County.**

(b) The court shall appoint a guardian ad litem under this section if a parent of a child subject to a petition for adoption:

- (1) is an individual with an intellectual disability; and**
- (2) has a court appointed guardian.**

(c) The provisions of IC 31-32-3 concerning the:

- (1) representation;**
- (2) duties;**
- (3) liabilities; and**
- (4) appointment;**

of a guardian ad litem apply to a guardian ad litem appointed under this section.

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(d) The cost and expenses incurred in connection with the appointment of a guardian ad litem are paid by the county upon order of the appointing court.

(e) This section expires July 1, 2026.



President of the Senate

President Pro Tempore

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Governor of the State of Indiana

Date: _____ Time: _____

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