One Hundred Third Legislature - First Session - 2013

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB342

Chairperson: Senator Brad Ashford

Committee: Judiciary

Date of Hearing:

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 342 clarifies that, in a termination of parental rights proceeding, a custodian, guardian or step-parent of a child does not have a default right to court-appointed, county-funded counsel. However, if there is an allegation made against such person, he or she retains the right to court-appointed, county-funded counsel.

In addition, it clarifies that a person for whom the court has appointed county-funded counsel must make contact with such counsel and/or attend court hearings in order to retain such counsel.

Principal Introducer:

Senator Colby Coash