

Bill No.: SF0022 **Effective:** 7/1/2025

LSO No.: 25LSO-0378

Enrolled Act No.: SEA No. 0083

Chapter No.: 138

Prime Sponsor: Schuler

Catch Title: Ground for termination of parental rights-guardianship.

Has Report: No

Subject: Providing for termination of parental rights for a guardianship and parental unfitness.

Summary/Major Elements:

- Current law provides that a parent's rights may be terminated upon a court finding one (1) or more facts specified in statute by clear-and-convincing evidence.
- This act adds a new criteria allowing a parent's rights to be terminated if there is clear-and-convincing evidence that the child has been appointed a guardian who is a relative of the child, the child has been under the guardian's care for at least twenty-four (24) consecutive months, and the parent is unfit to have the custody and control of the child.
- For purposes of this act, a relative includes a grandparent, stepparent, great-grandparent, sibling, stepsibling, half-sibling, uncle, or aunt.

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