

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

MADAM PRESIDENT and MR. SPEAKER: Your committee on conference on Senate amendments to **HB 2568** submits the following report:

The House accedes to all Senate amendments to the bill, and your committee on conference further agrees to amend the bill as printed with Senate Committee amendments, as follows:

On page 1, by striking all in lines 27 through 33;

On page 7, by striking all in lines 2 through 5;

On page 8, following line 8, by inserting:

"(d) If both parents are parties to the action, the court shall enter such orders regarding custody, residency and parenting time as the court considers to be in the best interest of the child.

If the parties have an agreed parenting plan, it shall be presumed the agreed parenting plan is in the best interest of the child. This presumption may be overcome and the court may make a different order if the court makes specific findings of fact stating why the agreed parenting plan is not in the best interest of the child. If the parties are not in agreement on a parenting plan, each party shall submit a proposed parenting plan to the court for consideration at such time before the final hearing as may be directed by the court.

(e) If during the proceedings the court determines that there is probable cause to believe that the child is a child in need of care, as defined by subsections (d)(1), (d)(2), (d)(3) or (d)(11) of K.S.A. 2013 Supp. 38-2202, and amendments thereto, or that neither parent is fit to have residency, the court may award temporary residency of the child to a grandparent, aunt, uncle or adult sibling, or another person or agency if the court finds by written order that: (1) (A) The

child is likely to sustain harm if not immediately removed from the home; (B) allowing the child to remain in the home is contrary to the welfare of the child; or (C) immediate placement of the child is in the best interest of the child; and (2) reasonable efforts have been made to maintain the family unit and prevent the unnecessary removal of the child from the child's home or that an emergency exists which threatens the safety of the child. In making such a residency order, the court shall give preference, to the extent that the court finds it is in the best interests of the child, first to awarding such residency to a relative of the child by blood, marriage or adoption and second to awarding such residency to another person with whom the child has close emotional ties. The court may make temporary orders for care, support, education and visitation that it considers appropriate. Temporary residency orders are to be entered in lieu of temporary orders provided for in K.S.A. 2013 Supp. 38-2243 and 38-2244, and amendments thereto, and shall remain in effect until there is a final determination under the revised Kansas code for care of children. An award of temporary residency under this subsection shall not terminate parental rights nor give the court the authority to consent to the adoption of the child. When the court enters orders awarding temporary residency of the child to an agency or a person other than the parent, the court shall refer a transcript of the proceedings to the county or district attorney. The county or district attorney shall file a petition as provided in K.S.A. 2013 Supp. 38-2234, and amendments thereto, and may request termination of parental rights pursuant to K.S.A. 2013 Supp. 38-2266, and amendments thereto. The costs of the proceedings shall be paid from the general fund of the county. If a final determination is made that the child is not a child in need of care, the county or district attorney shall notify the court in writing and the court, after a hearing, shall enter appropriate custody orders pursuant to this section. If the same judge presides over

both proceedings, the notice is not required. Any order pursuant to the revised Kansas code for care of children shall take precedence over any similar order under this section.";

And by redesignating remaining subsection accordingly;

On page 15, in line 2, by striking "23-2201,"; in line 3, by striking "23-2225,";

And by renumbering sections accordingly;

On page 1, in the title, in line 3, by striking "23-2201,"; in line 5, by striking the comma and inserting "and"; also in line 5, by striking "and 23-2225";

And your committee on conference recommends the adoption of this report.

Conferees on part of Senate

Conferees on part of House