# **Assembly**

# **Record of Committee Proceedings**

# **Committee on Family Law**

### **Assembly Bill 279**

Relating to: creating a rebuttable presumption against awarding a parent joint or sole legal custody if the court finds that the parent has engaged in a pattern or serious incident of abuse, requiring a guardian ad litem and a mediator to have training related to domestic violence, and requiring a guardian ad litem to investigate and a mediator to inquire whether a party in an action affecting the family engaged in domestic violence.

By Representatives Berceau, Friske, Ainsworth, Suder, Loeffelholz, Miller, Boyle, J. Lehman, Sinicki, Wasserman, Shilling, Montgomery, Hines, J. Fitzgerald, Van Roy, Ott, Bies, Jensen, Seratti, Vruwink, Richards and Kreibich; cosponsored by Senators Roessler, Risser, Stepp, Wirch, A. Lasee, Breske, Moore and Robson.

April 18, 2003 Referred to Committee on Family Law.

May 15, 2003 **PUBLIC HEARING HELD** 

Present: (6) Representatives Owens, Kestell, Jensen, Friske,

Berceau and Krusick.

Absent: (0) None.

# Appearances For

- MaryAnn Lippert, Personal Development Center of Marshfield, Pittsville
- Representative Terese Berceau, 76th Assembly District
- Representative Donald Friske, 35th Assembly District
- Margaret Hickey, State Bar of Wisconsin / Family Law Section, Milwaukee
- Lisa Stewart-Boettcher, Columbus
- Cindy Cochran, HELP of Door County, Ellison Bay
- Amy Venables-O'Neil, Task Force on Family Violence, Milwaukee
- Carol Medaris, WI Council on Children & Families, Madison
- Ronda Devenport, Jackson
- Margaret Mitchell, Sheboygan
- Bob Andersen, Legal Action of Wisconsin, Madison
- Pat Wathen, Madison
- Sally Jackson, Madison
- Katie Carroll, Sheboygan
- Mary Lauby, WI Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Madison

## Appearances Against

- Tom Pfeiffer, Madison
- Bryan Holland, Legislation for Kids & Dads, Monroe
- Roger Beers, La Valle

#### Appearances for Information Only

• None.

#### Registrations For

- Lauren Bloom, Madison
- Senator Carol Roessler, 18th Senate District
- Lisa Macaulay, WI Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Madison
- Kathleen Harris, Baileys Harbor
- Rev. Sue Moline Larsen, Lutheran Office for Public Policy in WI, Madison

### Registrations Against

- Jan Raz, WI Fathers for Children and Families, Hales Corners
- Joseph Vaughn, Evansville

### September 18, 2003 EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD

Present: (6) Representatives Owens, Kestell, Jensen, Friske,

Berceau and Krusick.

Absent: (0) None.

Moved by Representative Jensen, seconded by Representative Berceau that **Assembly Substitute Amendment 1** be recommended for adoption.

Ayes: (6) Representatives Owens, Kestell, Jensen,

Friske, Berceau and Krusick.

Noes: (0) None.

ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 1 ADOPTION RECOMMENDED, Ayes 6, Noes 0

Moved by Representative Berceau, seconded by Representative Krusick that **Assembly Bill 279** be recommended for passage as amended.

Ayes: (6) Representatives Owens, Kestell, Jensen,

Friske, Berceau and Krusick.

Noes: (0) None.

PASSAGE AS AMENDED RECOMMENDED, Ayes 6, Noes 0

Jacque Dicks Committee Clerk