



**SENATE AMENDMENT 4,
TO SENATE BILL 504**

February 17, 2014 – Offered by Senators HARRIS and RISSER.

1 At the locations indicated, amend the bill as follows:

2 **1.** Page 3, line 7: after “excuse.” insert “If the court finds that a parent’s
3 conduct in failing to appear in person as ordered was egregious and without clear and
4 justifiable excuse, the court may not hold a dispositional hearing on the contested
5 adoption or involuntary termination of parental rights until at least 2 days have
6 elapsed since the date of that finding.”.

7 **2.** Page 3, line 12: after that line insert:

8 “**SECTION 5m.** 48.424 (4) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 48.424 (4) (intro.) If grounds for the termination of parental rights are found
10 by the court or jury, the court shall find the parent unfit. A finding of unfitness shall
11 not preclude a dismissal of a petition under s. 48.427 (2). The Except as provided in
12 s. 48.23 (2) (b) 3., the court shall then proceed immediately to hear evidence and
13 motions related to the dispositions enumerated in s. 48.427. Except as provided in

1 s. 48.42 (2g) (ag), the court may delay making the disposition and set a date for a
2 dispositional hearing no later than 45 days after the fact-finding hearing if any of
3 the following apply:”.

4 (END)