IOWA HOUSE REPUBLICANS

REPUBLICAN CAUCUS STAFF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL DES MOINES, IOWA 50319

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HOUSE REPUBLICAN STAFF ANALYSIS

House Committee:

House Floor:

Senate Floor:

Governor:

Bill:

House File 400 (Formerly HF 58)

PASSED on February 21 (19-0)

Committee:

Judiciary Floor Manager: Rep. Lohse

Date:

March 14, 2023

Staff:

Amanda Wille (1-5230)

Ending of Parental Rights

HF 400 allows a parent to revoke their application for termination of parental rights if the other parent returns before final termination.

Section by Section Analysis

Section 1 -Termination of Parental Rights-Termination Findings and Order-Vacation of Order (600A.9) If a mother gives up her parental rights but the court has not granted the termination, and during that time the father returns and refuses to give up his parental rights, the court shall allow the mother to request to end her termination of rights within 30 days of the father returning.

This happens in situations where the mother gives up rights, but the father hasn't or can't be found. If the father returns before the final proceeding and claims to want the child, this gives the mother a chance to also end the termination of her rights. This would prevent an abusive parent from attempting to keep the child without the other parent being involved.

Amendment Analysis