

REPUBLICAN CAUCUS STAFF
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE CAPITOL

DES MOINES, IOWA 50319

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HOUSE REPUBLICAN STAFF ANALYSIS

Bill: House File 400 (Formerly HF 58)

Committee: Judiciary Floor Manager: Rep. Lohse Date: May 8, 2023

Staff: Amanda Wille (1-5230)

House Committee:

House Floor: Senate Floor:

Governor:

PASSED on February 21 (19-0)

PASSED on March 15 (97-0) **PASSED** on May 2 (48-0)

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

<u>Section 1 – Termination of Parental Rights-Termination Findings and Order-Vacation of Order (600A.9)</u>
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